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Prez Murmu conferred hon doctorate in Slovakia

President Droupadi Murmu was on Thursday conferred an Honorary Doctorate by Constantine The Philosopher University in Slovakia for her "distinguished career in public service". She arrived at the campus to receive the honour on the final day of a four-day state visit to Slovakia and Portugal. She is being recognised for her distinguished career in public service and governance, advocacy for social justice and inclusion

DSPL-24

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda
Union Health & Family Welfare, Chemicals & Fertilizers Minister

Shri Mohan Charan Majhi
Chief Minister, Odisha

Launching Ceremony

Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana(ABPMJAY)
Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana(GJAY)
Cobranded Card Distribution
& Ayushman Vay Vandana Yojana(AVVY)

Chief Guest

Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda
Union Health & Family Welfare, Chemicals & Fertilizers Minister

In the august presence of

Shri Mohan Charan Majhi
Chief Minister, Odisha

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
Union Education Minister

Shri Jual Oram
Union Minister of Tribal Affairs

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw
Union Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting, Electronics & Information Technology

Shri Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo
Deputy Chief Minister, Odisha

Smt. Pravati Parida
Deputy Chief Minister, Odisha

Dr. Mukesh Mahaling
Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Parliamentary Affairs, Electronics & Information Technology, Odisha

11 April 2025 | 2.30 PM | Baliyatra Ground, Cuttack

OIPR-10001/13/0048/2425

Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of Odisha

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client M/s Vamshika Flowers Private Limited, intend to purchase the land Survey No. 210/1, Block-1 to 9, Chikkathirupati Village, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District, total area 28 acres, from the present owner, hereinafter referred to as the "Schedule Property", as detailed in the Schedule hereunder.

Objections /claims if any to the proposed transaction of sale or in respect of below Schedule Properties may be lodged with the undersigned in writing along with documentary proof within 15 days from hereof, failing which our client shall finalise the transaction. Objections received beyond the said period shall not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Owner name- Sri Annayappa S/o. Muniswamy (as per Grant)

ITEM NO.1: All that piece and parcel of agriculture dry land Sy. No.210/1 (Block-1), extending over 04 Acres, Situated at Chikkatrupathi Village, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District and bounded as East by : Land belonging to Lakshmamma W/o.Ramappa; West by : Land belonging to Doddamunidasappa; North by : Jagadenahalli Village boundary; South by : Land belonging to Mohammed Jakriya S/o. Mohammed Husen.

Owner name- Sri Doddamunidasappa S/o. Munidasappa (as per Grant)

ITEM NO.2: All that piece and parcel of agriculture dry land Sy. No.210/1 (Block-2), extending over 04 Acres, Situated at Chikkatripathi Village, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District and bounded as East by : Land belonging to Annayappa S/o.Muniswamy; West by : Baguru Sonnenahalli boundary; North by : Jagadenahalli Village boundary; South by : Land belonging to Mohammed Jakriya S/o. Mohammed Husen.

Owner name- Smt.Lakshmamma W/o. Ramappa (as per Grant)

ITEM NO.3: All that piece and parcel of agriculture dry land Sy. No.210/1 (Block-3), extending over 03 Acres, Situated at Chikkatripathi Village, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District and bounded as East by : Land belonging to Muniyappa S/o. Varadappa; West by : Land belonging to Annayappa S/o. Muniswamy; North by : Jagadenahalli Village boundary; South by : Land belonging to Ramchandrappa S/o. Muniyappa.

Owner name- Sri Muniyappa S/o. Varadappa (as per Grant)

ITEM NO.4: All that piece and parcel of agriculture dry land Sy. No.210/1 (Block-4), extending over 03 Acres, Situated at Chikkatripathi Village, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District and bounded as East by : Land in Sy.No.209; West by : Land belonging to Lakhsmamma W/o. Ramappa; North by : Jagadenahalli Village boundary; South by : Land belonging to Chandrachary S/o. Shankarachary.

Owner name- Sri Chandrachary S/o. Shankarachary (as per Grant)

ITEM NO.5: All that piece and parcel of agriculture dry land Sy. No.210/1 (Block-5), extending over 02 Acres, Situated at Chikkatripathi Village, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District and bounded as East by : Land in Sy.No.209; West by : Land belonging to Ramachandrappa S/o. Muniyappa; North by : Land belonging to Muniyappa S/o. Varadappa; South by : Anchemuskur boundary.

Owner name- Sri Ramchandrappa S/o. Muniyappa (as per Grant)

ITEM NO.6: All that piece and parcel of agriculture dry land Sy. No.210/1 (Block-6), extending over 03 Acres, Situated at Chikkatripathi Village, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District and bounded as East by : Land belonging to Chandrachary S/o.Shankarachary; West by : Land belonging to Shaik Anwar S/o. Shaik Mastan; North by : Land belonging to Lakshmamma W/o. Ramappa; South by : Anchemuskur boundary.

Owner name- Sri Mohammed Jakriya S/o. Mohammed Husen (as per Grant)

ITEM NO.7: All that piece and parcel of agriculture dry land Sy. No.210/1 (Block-7), extending over 03 Acres, Situated at Chikkatripathi Village, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District and bounded as East by : Land belonging to Lakshmamma W/o. Rampapa; West by: Baguru Sonnenahalli Boundary; North by : Land belonging to Annayappa and Doddamunidasappa; South by : Land belonging to Shaik Anwar S/o. Shaik Mastan and Abdul Javeed.

Owner name- Sri Shaik Anwar S/o. Shaik Mastan (as per Grant)

ITEM NO.8: All that piece and parcel of agriculture dry land Sy. No.210/1 (Block-8), extending over 03 Acres, Situated at Chikkatripathi Village, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District and bounded as East by : Land belonging to Ismail; West by : Baguru Sonnenahalli Boundary; North by : Land belonging to Mohammed Jakriya S/o. Mohammed Husen; South by : Anchemuskur boundary.

Owner name- Sri Abdul Javeed S/o. Abdul Mastan (as per Grant)

ITEM NO.9: All that piece and parcel of agriculture dry land Sy. No.210/1 (Block-9), extending over 03 Acres, Situated at Chikkatripathi Village, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District and bounded as East by : Land belonging to Ramachandrappa S/o. Muniyappa; West by : Land belonging to Ismail; North by : Land belonging to Mohammed Jakriya S/o. Mohammed Husen; South by : Anchemuskur boundary.

Bengaluru
Date: 09.04.2025

H.R. Sreepada, Advocate
Ram Bhat & Sreepada Associates,
No.20, Chaitra, 4th Floor, 6th Cross, 8thMain, Vasanthanagar, Bengaluru-560052. Mob:9844076629.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General Public that our Clients are intending to purchase the **Industrial Plot bearing No. SB-168, Corporation PID No. 11-149-SB/168,** formed by Karnataka State Small Industries Development Corporation Ltd., situated at Peenya 1st Stage, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru, now within the administrative limits of Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, which is morefully described in the Schedule hereunder as "Schedule Property" from its Owners **M/s. MAYLARI AGRO PRODUCTS LTD.,** A Company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956, having its Registered Office at No. SB-168, Ground Floor, 3rd Cross, Peenya Industrial Area, Near Maini Company, Peenya 1st Stage, Bengaluru-560 058, Represented by its Managing Directors **(1) MR. S. PADMANABAN**, aged about 50 years, S/o Sri. Sundar, residing at No. 41A, 5th Cross, Bhumika Layout, Sidedahalli, Bengaluru-560090, and **(2) MR. M. BHASKAR,** aged about 43 years, S/o Sri. M.K. Munirathnam Naidu, residing at No. 15, G.T. Residency, 5th Cross, 3rd Main, Near Chowdeshwarinagar, Bengaluru- 560 091. The Owners have represented to our Clients that they are the sole and absolute owners of the Schedule Property having unrestricted rights of alienation over the same. The Owners have further represented to our Clients that the Schedule Property is free from all encumbrances, charge, lien, litigations and/ or any third party rights/ claims of any nature whatsoever. Notice is hereby given to the general public that if any person/s, having/claiming/asserting any right, title interest or claim entity, has pending litigation, or any ex-parte decree, tenancy, mortgage, charge, lien or demand or any other interest of whatsoever nature in or upon the Schedule Property or any part thereof, the same may be brought to the notice of the undersigned in writing together with all details and documents in support of such claim within **Fifteen (15) days** from the date of this Notice, failing which, it shall be deemed that the aforesaid Owners have a clear and marketable title to the Schedule Property and that none else has any right, title, interest or claim whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property; and our Clients would be at liberty to proceed to enter into and complete the intended transaction in respect of the Schedule Property. Any objections and/or claims received after the expiry of the stipulated period shall neither be entertained nor be binding on our Clients.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the **Industrial Plot bearing No. SB-168, Corporation PID No. 11-149-SB/168,** formed by Karnataka State Small Industries Development Corporation Ltd., situated at Peenya 1st Stage, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru now within the administrative limits of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, **measuring East to West: 69 feet or 21.03 meters and North to South: 131.31 feet or 40.02 meters, along with a building of 14.04 Square meters of RCC roofing and 157.2 Square meters constructed thereon and connected with electricity and water and bounded on: East by: Industrial Shed No. SB-167, West by : Open Land, North by: 3rd Cross Road, South by : Open Land.**

(N Shiva Kumar) Advocate / Partner
Shiva & Shiva, Advocates,
No: 11, Shiva Krupa, 2nd Floor, 19th Main,
Rajajinagar 2nd Block, Bangalore -560010, **Ph: 080-23323131**

Place: Bangalore Date: 11-04-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to the general public that our client **M/s. Hiriyur SML Enterprises LLP** Represented by its **Mr. Nagaraj.M.M. S/o. Late Madivalappa,** residing at No. 355, 2nd Floor, 2nd "E" Main Road, 11th Block, 2nd Stage, Nagarabhavi- 560072, are purchasing the Schedule Property from its owners BAM Associates LLP, having registered office at No. 283, "Chinna Raj House" 2nd Main, 4th Cross, 80 feet road, RMV-II stage, Bengaluru-560094 represented by its Designated Partners, **Sri. R.Manjunath S/o. Late B.K.Rajashekarappa & B.Bhaskar S/o. Late B.Satyanarayana.** If the general public or anyone have any manner of claim, right, title, interest or demand of any nature in or over the Schedule Properties, they are hereby requested to file their objections along with the supporting documents with the undersigned within the period of **15 (fifteen) days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on our client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Extent		Boundaries			
		A-G	A-G	East	West	North	South
01.	179/1	42-05	3-30	Re-Sy No. 179/2;	Re-Sy No. 180, 181 & 182	Re-Sy No. 191	Re- survey No. 175
02.	179/2	17-04	2-04	Sy No. 179/1	Badavanahalli Kaval village boundary	Sy No. 191/2, 191/4	Sy No. 178 & 175
03.	180	4-29	0-32	Re-Sy No. 174	Re-Sy No. 175 & 179	Re-Sy No. 181	Re-Sy No. 174
04.	182	4-28	0-24	Re-Sy No. 184	Re-Sy No. 179	Re-Sy No. 183	Re-Sy No. 181
05.	191/2	9-04	0-04	Sy No. 191/3 & 190	Sy No. 191/1, 191/4 & 191/5	Sy No. 192	Sy No. 179
06.	192	35-13	0-13	Re-survey No. 190	Badavanahalli kavalu road	Sy No. 193 & 194	Sy No. 191

All situated at Belagere Village, Parashuramapura Hobli, Challakere Taluk, Chitradurga District:

Sd/-
SURESH.H.M., Advocate
VSR LEGAL
Advocates & Legal Consultants,
No.01, "SOWRABHA", 2nd Main Road, Kalyana Nagar,
Bangalore- 560072. Ph: 9845954657 / 9900068017.

Date : 11-04-2025 Place : Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that, my client, **Smt, Vathsala W/o Om Sankar,** R/at, No. 96, 28th main Road Cubbenpete, Bengaluru-560058, the schedule property was executed by Smt, Rukumani bai and others through sale deed dated: **28/06/2021,** Sub Register Jayanagar Bangaluru city at Serial No. **BNG(U)JNR1070/2021-22** Now the original owners of the property Smt, Vathsala W/o Om Sankar,

My client applying for loan facilities from Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Ltd,

If any person having right, title, interest and any claims/ objections over on basis of the sale deed dated: **28/06/2021,** in respect of the schedule property can arise their claims/ objections along with supporting documents to under signed person with in period of 7 days (seven days) from the date of Publication.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Property situated at Jayanagar 2nd Block 4th Cross, Bengaluru, bearing Site, Old.No- 208 New No18/2 and **BBMP, P.Id New No.50-55-18/2,** under **BBMP Ward No.153** measuring an extent of **East to West 20-0 Feet** and **North to South: 35-0 Feet,** measuring 700 Square Feet. **East:** Narayanappa's property, **West:** Plot No 208 the property was sold to Kishore kumar Lunkad. &Vimal Chand Jain. and Dimple Jain. **North:** Property bearing Mr Ramakrishna No, 18/4, and passage measuring 4 X 55 feet left for common usage **South:** Site No213,

Sd/- PURUSHOTHAMA .N,M, ADVOCATE
Chamber address: 134, Near Milk Dairy, Naganayakanakote Samethanahalli Post, Whitefiled, Bangaluru-560067

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client is intending to purchase Schedule Property from its owner **Mr. M.. Prabhakar @ Prabhakaran. M.** S/o Mr. Balakrishna.

This Notice is hereby given for the information of General Public that any person/s, or Banks or Financial Institutions, etc., is having any right, title, interest, claim, or demand on the said property by way of sale, agreement of sale, exchange, gift, mortgage, charge, trust, inheritance, possession, lease, tenancy, easements, attachments, family settlements, Will / bequest, succession rights, development rights, power of attorney, partnership or otherwise whatsoever in nature is hereby required to intimate in writing along with documentary evidence to the office address as mentioned hereunder **within 15 days** from the date this publication failing which, no claim/objections/disputes will be entertained in future and said sale will be completed.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Site No.233, PID No.1754588835 situated at BTM 6th stage, 1st Phase, Hulimavu, Bangalore South Taluk, presently within BBMP Limits. Measuring East to West 80 feet and North to South 50 feet, totally measuring 4000 Sft. and bounded on

East by : 80 feet Road,
West by : Site No. 227, & 228, Road,
North by : Site No. 234, and
South by : Site No. 232.

B.H. SHAMANNA & A.S. GIRISH,
Advocates
No. 14/3, 4TH Floor Annex, (Opp. YAVANIKA), Sri Aravinda Bhavan, Nrupatunga Road, Bangalore-560001.

RAIL COACH FACTORY, KAPURTHALA

On-line bids are invited by PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India for following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No. & Due Date	Description	Qty. (NOS./ Sets)	EMD (₹)
1.	12231419A 09/05/2025	Set of Partition Frame for LHB AC 3T Coach	50 Set	3,50,000/-
2.	12231399C 06/05/2025	Non AC Area Ceiling Arrgt. for LHB AC 3Tier Coaches.	50 Nos.	1,76,080/-

1. For details and making On-line Bids, visit Website **http://ireps.gov.in.** Drawings / specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF website **http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in.** Class IIIb digital signature certificate required for on-line Bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at **http://www.cce.gov.in.** 2. Tenders will close at 14.25 Hrs. on due date and Tender will be opened at 14.30 Hrs. Tenders Sr. No. 1 & 2 will be opened at RCF Kapurthala. 3. For queries, contact IREPS heldesk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF helpdesk at 011-23378658.

Note: GST Number of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them.

PCMM

CORRIGENDUM

The following amendment is authorized against **1) Tender No. 12241320B** for procurement of Set of Window Inner Frame for LHB SCN, GS, SLRD Amrit Bharat Coaches in which Due date to be read as 11/04/2025 instead 02/04/2025. **2) Tender No 17231508** Due date to be read as 15/04/2025 instead 08/04/2025. **3) Tender No. 13245381** for procurement of Optical Emission Spectrometer for Testing of Safety Critical Items as per Spec No. Mech/M/Umbrella Project /438/22 in which due date to be read as 23/04/2025 instead of 15/04/2025.

T. No.: 006-S/2024-25 Dated: 10.04.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client namely, **Mr. NAVEEN KUMAR R,** S/o. Rudhra Radhya, Aged about 40 years, R/o: #342, Muthanallur village & post, Anekal taluk, Bangalore – 560099 and one Prashanth. N are the absolute owners in possession and enjoyment of the residential vacant SITE property bearing Site No.26, in 'El' Block, Old Katha No.876/26, New Katha No.776/26, E-Katha No: 150200101500500836, Property No:776/26 (As per gram panchayath records) measuring East to West : 12.19 Meters (40 feets) and North to South : 9.14 Meters (30 feets) in all measuring 1200 Sq. feets of site in "SIVAPRIYA NAGAR" carved out of converted land in Sy.No.68, measuring 2 acre 26 guntas vide conversion order No. BDS.ALN.SR(A).45/2000-01, dated:08.01.2002 and the layout plan approved by concerned authority. Situated at: Bendaganahally Village, Neralur Village Panchayath, Attibele Hobli, Anekal taluk, Bangalore Urban District who acquired the same under registered sale deed dated. 20.01.2022 executed by one Smt. Bhavani D/o Rangaswamy vide registered document No. ABL-1-08425/2021-22 before Sub registrar, Attibele. The above said property originally belongs to Shivapriya Township Promoters Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore, who are sold the same in favour of one V. Prashanth Shetty S/o G. Ravindra Shetty Under registered sale deed dated. 12.01.2005 vide registered document No. 21937/2004-05 registered in the office of Sub registrar, Anekal. In turn the said V. Prashanth shetty were sold the same in favour of Smt. Priya. M. Shetty W/o Mahesh Shetty Under registered sale deed dated. 18.10.2006 vide registered document No. ANK-1-23911/2006-07 registered in the office of Sub registrar, Anekal. Further said Smt. Priya M. Shetty W/o Mahesh Shetty also sold the above said property in favour of Smt. Bhavani W/o Rangaswamy (my client'sVendor). The katha of the above said property is also transferred and stands in my client's name and said Prashanth. N jointly. My client on 02.04.2025 he has lost the original registered sale deed dated. 18.10.2006 (vide registered document No. ANK1-23911/2006-07 registered in the office of Sub registrar, Anekal) at Chandapura.

After that, inspite of his best efforts and thorough search, he could not trace out the same. And in this regard on 10.04.2025 my client lodged police complaint vide GSC NO. PO2144250600437 if anybody finds the above said original document/ original registered sale deed dated. 18.10.2006 it is requested to hand over the same to my client or to my below mentioned address.

R. HARISH KUMAR, Advocate
Office at:- 1st floor, Mahadeshwara complex, Attibele road, Anekal Town,
Bangalore District- 562 106. MOB: 9844527158

PUBLIC NOTICE

TO KNOW ALL MEN, our clients, **SRI. V. JAYACHANDRA REDDY,** S/o. Sri. C. Varada Reddy and **SRI.C.N. BABU REDDY,** S/o. Sri. C. Keshava Reddy, who are the owners of properties mentioned in the schedule item no. 1 & 2 respectively have given Power of Attorney in favour of **SRI. K.S. SURESH BABU,** S/o. Sri. Sundar Raju, R/a. No.9, Tata Silk Farm, Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560 004, and the said Power of Attorney given by our clients has already been cancelled by way of Cancellation Notice dated 09.04.2025 and therefore, it is notifying to the public in general not to correspond or negotiate or discuss with the said Sri. K.S. Suresh Babu pertaining to the properties mentioned below as our clients have already cancelled the said power of attorney given to him.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM NO.1 The property bearing Site No. 38A, situated at Garve Palya Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West: 40 feet and North to South: 134+137/2 in all measuring 5420 sq.ft.,

ITEM NO. 2 The property bearing Site No. 38, situated at Garve Palya Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West: 40 feet and North to South: 131+134/2 in all measuring 5300 sq.ft.,

ADDRESS FOR SERVICE:
KANTI B.L.
SRINIVAS. B.N. ADVOCATES
#156/1C, 2nd Floor, 'Sharada Mansion'
R.V. Road, V.V. Puram, (Opp. Karnataka Bank)
Near Minerva Circle, Bangalore-560004
Mobile: 9481651640/9900684761

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE, U R RAO SATELLITE CENTRE

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, HAL Airport Road, Vimanapura Post, Bangalore - 560 017

Phone : 080 25084156 / 4318 / 4185

BRIEF TENDER NOTICE

1. On behalf of the President of India, item- rate tender is invited for the following works:

Description	Details	Details	Details
Name of work	Replacement of faulty conventional Street Light Fittings & Faulty Cables and allied electrical works at ISRO Guest House, Devanahalli, Bengaluru Rural	Electrical Works for Storage Building adjacent to AITF-2 at ISITE Campus, URSC, Bengaluru	Providing Smoke Detection, Fire Alarm System & Public Address System for various areas at ISITE Campus, Marathahalli, Bengaluru
E-Tender Notice	URSC/C&MG/E/M/01/2025-26 Dt. 01/04/2025	URSC/C&MG/E/C/01/2025-26 Dt. 03/04/2025	URSC/C&MG/E/C/02/2025-26 Dt. 04/04/2025
Estimated cost put to Tender	₹ 11.57 Lakhs	₹ 54.90 Lakhs	₹ 197.39 Lakhs
Tender Document Details	**E-Tender**	**E-Tender**	**E-Tender**
Period of completion in months	Six (06) Months	Eighteen (18) Months	Twelve (12) Months
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded.	From: 18:10 Hrs on 07/04/2025 To: 23:59 Hrs on 21/04/2025	From: 18:10 Hrs on 07/04/2025 To: 23:59 Hrs on 21/04/2025	From: 18:10 Hrs on 08/04/2025 To: 23:59 Hrs on 28/04/2025
Bid clarification	From: 19:00 Hrs on 07/04/2025 To:14:30 Hrs on 22/04/2025	From: 19:00 Hrs on 07/04/2025 To:14:30 Hrs on 22/04/2025	From: 19:00 Hrs on 08/04/2025 To:14:30 Hrs on 29/04/2025
Last date and time of reply to Bid clarification.	Upto: 18:00 Hrs on 24/04/2025	Upto: 18:00 Hrs on 24/04/2025	Upto: 18:00 Hrs on 30/04/2025
Last date and time for receipt of tenders.	Upto: 14:00 Hrs on 25/04/2025	Upto: 14:00 Hrs on 25/04/2025	Upto: 14:00 Hrs on 01/05/2025
Due date and time of opening of tenders.	14:30 Hrs on 25/04/2025	14:30 Hrs on 25/04/2025	14:30 Hrs on 01/05/2025
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 23,140/-**	**Rs. 1,09,800/-**	**3,94,780/-**

2. Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details in **website:www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/-
Group Director, C&MG, URSC

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK

(A Scheduled Commercial Bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantor's and Mortgagors have availed loans from **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited,** by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as **Non-performing Asset,** whereas **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued **Demand notice** calling upon the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within **60 days** from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	1) Mr. Jayaram C, 2) Mrs. Sowmya M	Loan Account No. 31879630000338 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that part and parcel of the property bearing Khaneshumari No.132, Site.110, Khatha No.132/1, House No.110/1, measuring East to West 16 Feet and North to South 40 Feet totally Measuring 640 Sq.feet, situated at Abbigere Village, Yeshavanthapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk and **Bounded on: East by:** Measuring 160X06 Feet road, **West by:** Property belongs to P. Rajanna, **North by:** Property belongs to Shyamala, **South by:** Property belongs to Geetha.	Date of NPA: 03-04-2025 Demand Notice Date: 09-04-2025	**Rs.4,37,968.10** (Rupees Four Lakh Thirty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Eight and Ten Paisa Only) **due as on 07-04-2025**
2	1) Mr. Muniyappa T M, 2) Mrs. Nagaveni, W/o. Mr. Muniyappa T M	Loan Account No. 46459630002281 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All the piece and parcel of the immovable residential Property bearing No.206, situated at Thavatahalli Village, Jadigenhalli Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Presently comes under the Limits of Orohalli Village Panchayath and **Bounded by the: East by:** House of Parvathamma, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Narayanaswamy & **South by:** Road. Measuring East to West: 34 feet and North to South: 26 feet.	Date of NPA: 03-04-2025 Demand Notice Date: 08.04.2025	**Rs.5,25,381.60** (Rupees Five Lakh Twenty Five Thousand Three Hundred Eighty One and Sixty Paisa Only) **as on 07-04-2025**
3	1) Mr. P Riyaz / Riyaz S. P, Also at: M/s. Hms Provision Store, Prop. P Riyaz / Riyaz.S.P, 2) Mrs. Noor Asfiya, 3) Mr. P. Babajan	Loan Account No. 34019430000395 Loan Amount: Rs.24,93,077/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of property bearing Sy.No.53, Katha No.5, PID No.37-509-276, measuring East to West: 11.88 meter, and North to South: 9.7 meter total measuring 115.2 sq.meter, situated at Rahamath Nagar, Vijaypura Town, 5th Division, Devanahalli Taluk Bengaluru Rural District ward No.23 and **Bounded on the: East by:** Multiple Road, **West by:** Property of C.B.Munishamappa, **North by:** Vacant Land belongs to Babajan, **South by:** E Schedule property belongs to P.Babajan.	Date of NPA: 03-04-2025 Demand Notice Date: 08.04.2025	**Rs.25,95,279.58** (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Nine and Fifty Eight Paisa Only) **due as on 07-04-2025**

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor & Mortgagor as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within **60 days** of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No. 6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** against the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/ prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

Date: 11.04.2025, Place: Bangalore & Bangalore Rural Sd/- Authorised Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **City Union Bank Ltd.,** having its **Administrative Office** at **No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001** and one of the Branch Offices at **Site No.1107, 1st Main Road, Satellite Town, (Opp. to Dominos Pizza), Kengeri, Bangalore-560060, Bengaluru - Kengeri Branch** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) & (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice Dated **31-01-2025** calling upon the borrowers **No.1) Mrs.R.Manjula, W/o.Late Chandrashekhar, No.3/1, Sri Sai Nilaya, Sri Srinivasa Road, Behind Canara Bank, Kengeri Upanagar, Bangalore South, Karnataka - 560060. No.2) Mr.C.Gopinath, S/o.Late Chandrashekhar, No.3/1, Sri Sai Nilaya, Sri Srinivasa Road, Behind Canara Bank, Kengeri Upanagar, Bangalore South, Karnataka - 560060** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being **Rs.23,25,367/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Twenty Five Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty Seven Only)** within **60 days** from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from **30-01-2025** with monthly rests.

The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 08th day of April 2025.

The borrowers above named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount of **Rs.18,84,950/- (Rupees Eighteen Lakh Eighty Four Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty Only)** and interest thereon from **07-04-2025** till the repayment of entire dues.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A
Property - 1 : (Property Owned by Mrs.R.Manjula, W/o.Late Chandrashekhar)

All that Piece and Parcel of Southern Portion of the immovable Property bearing No:3 ,Khata No.22/1 A 2, Assessment No.22/1A2. Measuring : East to West 80 Feet, North to South 25 Feet, Situated at Valagerahalli Grama, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore along with Building and Bounded on : East by : KHB Property, West by : Road, North by : Northern Portion of Same Property and Site of Sri Manjunath, South by : Site No:4, Measuring on : North to South on the Eastern Side : 25 Feet, North to South on the Western Side : 25 Feet, East to West on the Northern Side : 80 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side : 80 Feet, Totally to the Extent of 2000 Sq.ft., Together With the Superstructure now existing and to be Putup thereon in future.

Place : Bangalore, Date : 08-04-2025 Authorised Officer

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that my client **Mr. SUMAN Y C,** is intending to purchase the below mentioned schedule of property from its owners viz., Mr. VENKAT RAMANA M & M MANJU, both are residing at No. 419, 6TH MAIN, 7TH CORSS, SHAMANA GARDEN, KALYANAGAR POST, BANASWADI , BANGALORE - 560043. If anybody is having any objection, claim, interest, dispute for the above intended sale transaction, he/she/they may contact the undersigned with the documentary proof substantiating his/her/their objections/claims/details of dispute/s **within Fourteen (14) days** from the date of this publication, failing which, my client will proceed to complete the sale transaction with the above owner as if there are no third party claims/objections/disputes in respect of the Schedule Property and thereafter no claims/objections/disputes will be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM No.1: All that piece and parcel of land together with the structures standing thereon bearing Municipal Corporation No.3, PID No.88-9-3, (Earlier forming a portion of Site No.59, Khatha No.494, Old Khatha No.487 of Banaswadi, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk), situated at 7th Cross, Ex-Servicemen Colony, Corporation Ward No.88, Bangalore and bounded on the: **East by :** Site bearing No.58, **West by:** Road, **North by :** Road, **South by:** Property belonging to Mr.S.M.Prabakaran; (Earlier described as remaining portion of Site No.59); and measuring : EAST to WEST : 38 feet + 40 feet/2; NORTH to SOUTH : 20 feet; Totally measuring in all 760 Square feet.

OTHER PARTICULARS

The Schedule Property is a residential property having a plinth area of 200 Square feet of A.C. sheet roof, brick and mud walls, cement flooring, jungle wood doors, steel windows and having basic amenities.

ITEM No.2: All that piece and parcel of land together with the structures standing thereon bearing Municipal Corporation No.3/1, PID No.88-9-3/1, (Earlier forming a portion of Site No.59, Khatha No.494, Old Khatha No.487 of Banaswadi, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk), situated at 7th Cross, Ex-Servicemen Colony, Corporation Ward No.88, Bangalore and bounded on the : **East by:** Site bearing No.58, **West by :** Road, **North by:** Property belonging to Mr. S. George Edwin; (Earlier described as remaining portion of Site No.59); **South by:** Site bearing No.52; and measuring : EAST to WEST : 36 feet + 38 feet/2; NORTH to SOUTH : 20 feet; Totally measuring in all 740 Square feet.

OTHER PARTICULARS

The Schedule Property is a residential property having a plinth area of 200 Square feet of A.C. sheet roof, brick and mud walls, cement flooring, jungle wood doors, steel windows and having basic amenities.

AA ASSOCIATES & Legal Consultants
Chambers: No. 82-Z, Sunny Brooks, Sarjapura Road, Next to Wipro, Bengaluru - 560035.
(M) 8867010460, 8310306641

BEFORE THE HON'BLE COMMERCIAL COURT AT BANGALORE (CCH-84)

Comm O. S. No. 127 / 2025

BETWEEN: Logicserve Digital Consultancy Services Private Limited (Formerly known as Logicserve Digital Private Limited) B-201 & B-701, Technocity, Plot X-4/1 and X-4/2, Mahape, Navi Mumbai - 400701

Through Authorized Representative Rashmi Bhamdi (Manager-Legal)

...PLAINTIFF

VERSUS

Dunzo Digital Private Limited, 4th Floor, Incubex INRM, 558, 9th A Main Rd, Indira Nagar 1st Stage, Indiranagar (Bangalore), Bangalore, Bangalore North, Karnataka, India, 560038. Email: kabeer@dunzo.in

Also at: 1 Floor, 2, Saideep Srinidhi, NAL Wind Tunnel Road, Murgeshapalya, Bengaluru (Bangalore) Urban, Karnataka - 560017.

Through its directors **...DEFENDANT**

Summons under Order V Rule 20 of CPC by way of Paper Publication

To the Defendant:

Dunzo Digital Private Limited

Having office at 4th Floor, Incubex INRM, 558, 9th A Main Rd., Indira Nagar 1 Stage, Indiranagar (Bangalore), Bangalore, Bangalore North, Karnataka, India, 560038.

Whereas the above-named Plaintiff has filed a suit under Order XXXVII for a decree for a sum of Rs. 60,89,706/- along with interest at 18% p.a., a decree of Pendente-lite and future interest at 18% p.a. on sum of Rs. 60,89,706/- from the date of filing of suit till the date of actual realization and other consequent reliefs.

You are hereby warned to appear in this Court in person or by a Counsel duly instructed on the **28th day of April 2025**, at 11 a.m. to show cause against the claim, failing wherein, the matter will be heard and determined exparte.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on the 9th day of April 2025.

By Order of this Court
Sd/- Senior Sheristedar
Commercial Court Unit
City Civil Court, Bengaluru.

Advocate Name and Address:
Meena Venugopal, Partner,
Kochhar & Co., Advocates and Legal Consultants, No. 201, Prestige Sigma, No.3, Vittal Mallya Road, Bangalore - 560001.

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Public Notice For E-Auction Cum Sale (Appendix – IV A) (Rule 8(6))

Sale of Immovable property mortgaged to IIFL Home Finance Limited (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) (IIFL-HFL) Corporate Office at Plot No.98,Udyog Vihar, Phase–IV,Gurgaon-122015.(Haryana) and Branch Office at:- **"at SOMA MERIT, NO.9,GROUND FLOOR, VENKATASWAMY NAIDU STREET, TASKAR TOWN, SHIVAJINAGAR, BANGALORE-560001"** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter "Act"). Whereas the Auhorized Officer ("AO") of IIFL-HFL had taken the possession of the following property/ies pursuant to the notice issued U/S 13(2) of the Act in the following loan accounts/prospect nos. with a right to sell the same on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS AND WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS"** for reali-zation of IIFL-HFL's dues, The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website: **www.iiflonehome.com**

Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property/ Secured Asset	Date of Symbolic Possession	Reserve Price
1. Mr. Narendra Kumar 2. Mrs. Chaitra (Prospect No IL10158207)	**10-Sep-2024 Rs. 2606817.00/-** (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Six Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventeen Only)	All that part and parcel of the property bearing Site No. 39, in Survey No. 72, Shettyhalli Village, Yashwanthapur Hobli, Bangalore North, Karnataka, 560015 Area Admeasuring (in Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land_Area, Built_Up_Area, Carpet_Area Property Area: 585.00, 876.00, 886.00 (Area Admeasuring 1024 sq. ft)	**21-Nov-2024**	**Rs. 33,49,000/-** (Rupees Thirty Three Lakh Forty Nine Thousand Only)
	Bid Increase Amount **Rs. 40,000/-** (Rupees Forty Thousand Only)		**Total Outstanding As On Date 06-Apr-2025** **Rs. 28,24,084/-** (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Twenty Four Thousand and Eighty Four Only)	**Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs. 3,34,900/-** (Rupees Three Lakh Thirty Four Thousand Nine Hundred Only)

Date of Inspection of property	EMD Last Date	Date/Time of E Auction
25-Apr-2025 11:00 hrs -14:00 hrs	28-Apr-2025 till 5 pm.	30-Apr-2025 11:00 hrs.-13:00 hrs.

Mode Of Payment :- EMD payments are to be made vide online mode only. To make payments you have tovis-it https://www.iiflonehome.com and pay through link available for the property/ Secured Asset only. Note: Payment link for each property/ Secured Asset is different. Ensure you are using link of the property/ Se-cured Asset you intend to buy vide public auction.

For Balance Payment - Login https://www.iiflonehome.com >My Bid >Pay Balance Amount.

Important Information: This auction is published basis possession vide Sec 13 (4) of SARFAESI Act. Physical possession will be offered post receiving of Section -14 order as per process laid down under SARFAESI Act and as and when physical possession will be taken. Bidder shall do necessary due-diligence in respect of documents and legality before participating in auction proceedings.

Terms and Conditions:-

1. For participating in e-auction, Intending bidders required to register their details with the Service Provider **https://www.iiflonehome.com**, well in advance and has to create the login account, login ID and password. Intending bidders have to submit / send their "Tender FORM" along with the payment details towards EMD, copy of the KYC and PAN card at the above mentioned Branch Office.
2. The bidders shall improve their offer in multiple of amount mentioned under the column "Bid Increase Amount". In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes.
3. The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the bid amount (after adjusting EMD) within 24 hours of the acceptance of bid price by the AO and the balance 75% of the bid amount within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. All deposit and payment shall be in the prescribed mode of payment.
4. The purchaser has to bear the cess, applicable stamp duty, fees, and any other statutory dues or other dues like municipal tax, electricity charges, land and all other incidental costs, charges including all taxes and rates outgoings relating to the property.
5. The purchaser has to pay TDS application to the transaction/payment of sale amount and submit the TDS certificate with IIFL HFL.
6. Bidders are advised to go through the website **https://www.iiflonehome.com** and **https://www.iifl.com/home-loans/properties-for-auction** for detailed terms and conditions of auction sale & auction application form before submitting their Bids for taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings.
7. For details, help procedure and online training on e-auction prospective bidders may contact the service provider E mail ID:- **care@iiflonehome.com,** Support Helpline no.1800 2672 499.
8. For any query related to Property details, Inspection of Property and Online bid etc. call IIFL HFL toll free no.1800 2672 499 from 09:30 hrs to 18:00 hrs between Monday to Friday or write to email:- **care@iiflonehome.com**.
9. Notice is hereby given to above said borrowers to collect the household articles, which were lying in the secured asset at the time of taking physical possession within 7 days, otherwise IIFL-HFL shall not be responsible for any loss of property under the circumstances.
10. Further the notice is hereby given to the Borrower/s, that in case they fail to collect the above said articles same shall be sold in accordance with Law.
11. In case of default in payment at any stage by the successful bidder / auction purchaser within the above stipulated time, the sale will be cancelled and the amount already paid will be forfeited (including EMD) and the property will be again put to sale.
12. AO reserves the rights to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and condition of tender/auction without assigning any reason thereof. In case of any dispute in tender/Auction, the decision of AO of IIFL-HFL will be final.

15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER THE RULE 9 SUB RULE (1) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002

The Borrower are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with upto dated interest and ancillary expenses before the date of Tender/Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost

Place : Hobli, Date : 11-Apr-2025 Sd/- Authorised Officer, For IIFL Home Finance Ltd.

TEXTILE CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,

Authorised Officer/CEO's Details
Name: Srinivasa Murthy B.
MOB: +91 - 9972931077

Administrative Office :
No. 16, 1st A Main Road,
Sudhamanagar, Bengaluru-560027
Phone: 080-22231354/48521054
E-mail: textilecbl@gmail.com

Appendix: IV-A
[See Provison to rule 8(6)]
Sale notice for sale of immovable properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets (excluding movable assets, if any, laying in the premises) under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provison to Rule 8(6) and 9(1)of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) and Legal Heir(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer/CEO of Textile Co-Operative Bank Ltd being the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on **14.05.2025** for recovery of **Rs.34,44,837/-** (Rupees Thirty Four Lakh Forty Four Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Seven Only) as on 29.03.2025+ interest on further cost thereon.with future interest, costs expenses etc. due to the TEXTILE CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD, Bengaluru from **1. Sri. V. VADIVEL** S/o K. Venkatesh, **2. Sri. K. VENKATESH,** S/o late Kannan, **3. Smt. LAKSHMI. A,** w/o K. Venkatesh, All are r/at No. 617, 4th Block, 5th main Road, Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560010.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Old no. 616/617, New No. 23, P.I.D. no. 22-5-23, situated at 5th Main Road, 4th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore – 560010, measuring East to West – 46 feet and North to South – 25 Feet, totally 1150 Sq. Ft and bounded on the : East by : Road, West by : House no. 564, North by : House no. 616, South by : House no. 618.

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the Property Western portion House in Ground floor property bearing New no. 23/1, P.I.D. no. 22-5-23/1, having super Built up area of 420 Sq. Feet i.e., East to West – 21 feet and North to South – 20 feet together with 25 % undivided share, right, title in the land equivalent to 287.50 Sq. Ft in the **Schedule 'A' property** bearing Old No. 616/617, new No. 23, P.I.D. No. 22-5-23, situated at 5th Main Road, 4th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore – 560010 together with Common rights over passages, staircase etc., bounded on :East by : Eastern portion of House in Ground floor of Chandrashekar. K. West by : House no. 564, North by :5 feet common passage then House no. 616, South by : House no. 618.

DETAILS OF E-AUCTION

Reserve Price	Earnest Money to be Deposited	Last date and Time of EMD Submission	Bid Multiplier	Date and time of e-auction
Rs.23,50,000/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Fifty Thousand Only)	**Rs.2,35,000/-**	**13.05.2025 up to 4.00 PM**	**Rs.50,000/-**	**14.05.2025** From 11.30 AM to 12.30 P.M,

The Authorised Officer/CEO shall have absolute discretion to cancel the e-auction at any point of time, without assigning any reason. For detailed terms and conditions of the E-auction sale and for E-Auction tender document containing online e-auction Bid Form, Declaration etc, please refer to the link provided in M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd. https://www.bankeauctions.com

Place: Bengaluru
Date : 08.04.2025

Sd/-
Authorized Officer/CEO

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **City Union Bank Ltd.,** having its **Administrative Office** at **No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001** and one of the Branch Offices at **92, Z Square, Ground Floor, Jyothi Nivas College Road, Industrial Layout, 5th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru Urban - 560034 - Bengaluru - Koramangala Branch** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) & (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice Dated **29-01-2025** calling upon the borrowers **No.1) Mr.SM Krishna, S/o.Mallappa, No.65/02, 2nd Cross, Venkateshwara Layout, S.G.Palaya, Bangalore South, Bangalore - 560029. Also at, Mr. SM Krishna, S/o.Mallappa, E5/2, 2nd Main, Venkateshwara Layout, S.G.Palya, Bangalore - 560029. No.2) Mrs Shanthamma, W/o.SM Krishna, No.65/02, 2nd Cross, Venkateshwara Layout, S.G.Palya, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560029. Also at, Mrs.Shanthamma, W/o. SM Krishna, E5/2, 2nd Main, Venkateshwara Layout, S.G.Palya, Bangalore - 560029** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being **Rs.35,21,743 /- (Rupees Thirty Five Lakh Twenty One Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty Three Only)** within **60 days** from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from **28-01-2025** with monthly rests.

The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 08th day of April 2025.

The borrowers above named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount of **Rs.31,00,793/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakh Seven Hundred and Ninety Three Only)** and interest thereon from **07-04-2025** till the repayment of entire dues.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A
Property - 1 : (Property Owned by Mr.SM Krishna, S/o.Mallappa)

All that Piece and Parcel of the immovable Property Measuring 30 guntas in Sy No.26, Shivanapura Village, Anugondanahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. Bounded on: East by : Walk way and Remaining Portion of Same Property, West by : Gomala Land, North by : Property of Sri Annayyappa, South by : Gomala Land.

Place : Bangalore, Date : 08-04-2025 Authorised Officer

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

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WHITE HOUSE CLARIFIES TARIFFS ON CHINA ARE NOW AT 145%

The US-China trade war intensified on Thursday, sending the global economy into a tailspin after US said Chinese imports will face 145% taxes

E.U. SUSPENDS ITS TARIFFS ON U.S. FOR 90 DAYS

Amid questions over how far Trump is ready to push, the European Union welcomed the US president's partial row-back on his original threat to impose 20 per cent tariffs against the bloc. The 27-nation grouping suspended for 90 days its proposed tariffs on US goods. "We want to give negotiations a chance," EU chief Ursula von der Leyen said in a statement

CHINA REACHES OUT TO ASEAN, E.U. NATIONS

- Meanwhile, China is reaching out to other nations apart from ASEAN and the EU as the US layers on more tariffs in what appears to be an attempt to form a united front to compel Washington to retreat
- Chinese Foreign Ministry said they will not sit idly and let legitimate rights and interests of the Chinese people be taken for a ride | P11

1,700

POINTS DIP FOR DOW JONES AFTER U.S. CLARIFIED 145% TARIFF ON CHINA

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

NIA TAKES FORMAL CUSTODY OF 26/11 CO-CONSPIRATOR AT DELHI AIRPORT

SEEKS 20-DAY CUSTODY OF ACCUSED, SPECIAL COURT RESERVES DECISION

TAHAWWUR RANA ARRIVES

MUKESH RANJAN & SHEKHAR SINGH @ New Delhi

TAHAWWUR Hussain Rana, a key accused in the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, landed in Delhi on Thursday, ending years of diplomatic and legal effort for his extradition from the US. The 64-year-old Canadian citizen of Pakistani descent arrived aboard a special chartered flight under tight security, escorted by a joint team of Indian investigators.

As part of the extradition arrangement, India gave broad assurances to US authorities concerning Rana's treatment while in custody. According to sources, these assurances include guarantees that he would not be subjected to torture, receive adequate protection in prison, and prosecuted solely for the charges on which the extradition is based.

Rana provided crucial support to Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) operative David Coleman Headley by facilitating travel documents and shelter through his immigration business in Chicago, which was allegedly used as a front for terror planning.

The NIA took custody of Rana as soon as he emerged from the aircraft at the Palam airport. His medical examination was done at the airport due to security reasons before he was produced before Special NIA judge Chander Jit Singh at the Patiala House courts.

Senior advocate Dayan Krishnan and special public prosecutor Narender Mann represented the NIA. They told the court Headley had shared the full scope of the 26/11 plan with Rana prior to traveling to India. Anticipating complications, Headley had emailed Rana a list of his possessions and resources. In the same mail, he disclosed the roles of terrorists Ilyas Kashmiri and Abdur Rehman in the plot, the NIA said. While the NIA sought 20-day custody, the court reserved its order.

A 12-member NIA team led by its director general Sadanand Date will interrogate Rana. Date, a 1990 batch IPS officer from the Maharashtra cadre was injured in the 2008 Mumbai attacks. He was among the first responders to confront terrorists Kasab and Ismail. Years later, his leadership at NIA was a key factor in securing US approval for Rana's extradition. A veteran of the Mumbai Police and CBI, Date received the President's Police Medal for Gallantry. P7,9

NIA
NIA
NIA
Rana in NIA custody after landing in Delhi upon his extradition from the US | PTI
COMMUNICATION WITH HEADLEY
Headley visited India 8 times, and remained in touch with Rana, making over 200 calls
CALLS DURING VISITS
1st 32
2nd 23
3rd 40
4th 37
6th 33
8th 66

TERROR FOOTPRINT

- Rana helped David Headley obtain an Indian visa by providing fake documents
- Established 'Immigrant Law Centre' in Mumbai, which served as a front for Headley's ops and snooping

TERROR PLANNING

- Initial plans included targeting Chabad Houses across India, as ISI suspected they were Mossad bases
- Rent extension of 'Immigrant Law Centre' in July 2008 was arranged to support Rana's India visit, showing coordination with LeT handlers

Rana was in touch with ISI; Pak says he's Canadian national

EXCLUSIVE

MUDA SCAM: COPS ACCEPT VERSION OF ALL ACCUSED

YATHIRAJU @ Bengaluru

LOKAYUKTA police, who recently filed a closure report in the alleged MUDA site allotment scam, seem to have "accepted" all explanations given by the accused, including Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. The 'B' (closure) report, which has been challenged by the Enforcement Directorate before the court, states that Siddaramaiah, his wife Parvathy BM, his brother-in-law Mallikarjunaswamy and Devaraju J were asked 76 questions.

The Lokayukta police accepted their explanations by remarking in the report that they are 'acceptable', 'accepted' or 'can be accepted'. There is no mention of cross-questioning as is done in other cases.

This has raised eyebrows as they accepted the explanations or contentions of the accused 'as they are'. Around 24 questions were posed to the CM, 14 to Parvathy, 16 to Mallikarjunaswamy and 20 to Devaraju and their statements were recorded. Snehamayi Krishna, the complainant, and ED protested against the final report that gave clean chit to the accused.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah

The Lokayukta police concluded that the charges were not proved against the accused, but recorded that financial losses were caused to MUDA through allotment of compensatory sites to accused No 2 Parvathy by Natesh, the then MUDA commissioner.

The total loss caused to MUDA can be assessed by undertaking a comprehensive probe into allotment of sites to various persons illegally by predecessors and successors of Natesh between 2016 and 2024, before and after allotment of sites in the ratio of 50:50 to Parvathy, the report stated. P6

India, Pak hold flag meet to ease border tensions

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE armies of India and Pakistan held a brigade commander-level flag meeting on Thursday along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district to ease border tensions even as two anti-militancy operations launched by security forces in Udhampur and Kishtwar district of J&K continued for the second day.

The flag meet was held at the Chakan-Da-Bagh cross-point in the Poonch sector.

"Our side raised the issue of infiltration attempts, planting of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) near the border, using drones to drop weapons and drugs and sniper firing from across the border. We told them clearly that any violation of the border ceasefire will be met with heavy retaliatory action from our side," a Jammu-based defence spokesman said. He added that flag meetings are routine on the LoC for border management process in accordance with an understanding between both the sides.

"Today's meeting was conducted to discuss routine issues along the LoC," he said. This is the second flag meeting between Indian and Pakistan army officials at Chakan-Da-Bagh crossing point in Poonch this month.

Earlier, on April 2, the flag meeting was held during which both sides stressed the need to adhere to the November 2003 border ceasefire pact.

Victim invited trouble, HC says in rape case

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THE Allahabad High Court has granted bail to a man accused of raping a postgraduate student of a top private university campus in Noida, stating that the victim had "invited trouble" upon herself. The accused was arrested in December 2024 for allegedly raping the woman twice at a relative's apartment in Gurgaon after getting her intoxicated. The court said the woman, a post graduate student, was competent enough to understand the "morality and significance of her act" as disclosed by her in the FIR. As per the victim's version, she, of her own volition, went to a bar in Delhi along with three female friends, where they consumed alcohol.

She remained at the bar till 3 am and during her time there, the accused kept on insisting that she should accompany him to his house. As she was in need of rest due to her condition, she agreed to go with him to his house, the FIR said. She alleged that the accused, Nischal Chandak, touched her inappropriately on the way and instead of taking her to his home in Noida, he took her to a relative's flat in Gurgaon and raped her.

"Even if the allegation of the victim is accepted as true, it can be concluded that she herself invited trouble and was also responsible for the same. Similar stand has been taken by the victim in her statement. In her medical examination, her hymen was found torn but doctors did not give any opinion about sexual assault," Justice Sanjay Kumar Singh observed, while granting bail to Chandak.

While the incident took place on September 21, 2024, the victim filed an FIR on September 23 in Gautam Budh Nagar. Justice Singh said even if her allegations were true, the "victim's actions, including going to a bar and consuming alcohol with friends, contributed to the situation."

Parents brace for 10-15% school bus fee hike

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

AFTER the recent increase in prices of essential commodities, parents now have to brace for a hike in fees of school buses and vans.

Those running school buses and vans say that there will be a hike of 10-15% in the fees.

Shanmugam PS, president, Karnataka United School and Light Motor Vehicle Drivers' Union, affiliated to All India United Trade Union Centre (AIUTUC), told TNIE that the price of diesel has been increased by Rs 2. Fees pertaining to registration, permit, insurance and fitness certificate of vehicles, and renewal of licences and taxes on other items have gone up. "These hikes have significantly increased our operational costs," he said.

"Price hikes have already burdened the people. We know that the hike in fees of school buses and vans will be an additional burden on parents, we do not have any other option, but to pass on the diesel price increase to them, he said.

Shanmugam said that the union has been urging the Union and state governments to bring down the taxes and not to hike fuel prices, but nothing has been done. P4

EXPRESS READ

Cong chalks out own campaign to counter BJP's Janakrosh

Bengaluru: The Congress in Karnataka will counter the BJP's Janakrosh Yatre by holding a rally in Bengaluru's Freedom Park on April 17. Briefing the media, DyCM DK Shivakumar said CM Siddaramaiah, AICC General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala, among other senior leaders, will take part in the rally | P6

BJP leaders to meet Khader next week over suspension of MLAs

Bengaluru: BJP MLAs, who were suspended during the recent budget session in Karnataka, and their party leaders, are likely to meet Speaker UT Khader to urge him to revoke the suspension. On the last day of the budget session, 18 MLAs from BJP were suspended for six months on charges of unruly behaviour. Khader told *TNIE* that it is not a punishment, and nor did he hurt them | P6

Menstruating girl forced to write exam outside classroom in TN

Coimbatore: A private school principal in Coimbatore was suspended on Thursday after a Class 8 Dalit girl was forced to sit outside classroom and made to write an annual exam due to her menstruation cycle. TN School Education Minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi said oppression against children is unacceptable. He said the child is not alone and government would stand with her | P7

WITH THIS ISSUE

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- **Friday:** 11.04.2025 • **Year:** Vishwavasu • **Ayana:** Uttarayana
- **Ritu:** Vasantha • **Masa:** Chaitra • **Paksha:** Sukla • **Tithi:** Chaturdasi 2.16 am
- **Nakshatra:** Uttharaphalguni 2.37 pm • Moon in Tula Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
- **Gulikakala**: 07:30 am to 09:00 am • **Yamaganda:** 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

WEATHER

MIN 20°C | MAX 33°C

FORECAST
Showers late. Cloudy

Sunrise	06.09 am
Sunset	06.32 pm
Moonrise	05.21 pm
Moonset	04.58 pm

TOUGH PERIOD

Diesel price hike, lack of cold storage double blow to horti sector

Only 221 freezers available across state; Operational expenses to rise by 15-20%

RISHITA KHANNA @Bengaluru

KARNATAKA'S horticulture sector faces a double blow — a severe shortage of cold storage facilities and a fresh hike in diesel prices. With only 221 cold storages available to handle tonnes of perishable produce annually, the sector is already under pressure. Now, the recent Rs 2 per litre increase in diesel prices is set to further strain farmers, who say rising fuel costs will significantly drive up storage and transport costs.

With most cold storages and nearly 80% of refrigerated trucks running on diesel, farmers say that the price rise will increase operational expenses by at least 15-20%, making it costlier to store and move crops like grapes, mangoes, tomatoes, and flowers, which Karnataka exports in large volumes.

While these 221 cold storage facilities are managed by the government - the transportation of the produce - from the land to the nearest warehouse and cold storage facilities and then to other districts and states - is handled by marketing chains and private traders, which the farmers say, leaves them with no bargaining power after the recent hike.

"With the diesel price hike, transporters are now increasing freight charges, reducing frequency of pickups, and in some cases, refusing smaller loads," said Hemanth Rudregowda from Karnataka Grape Growers Association. He added that farmers, already thin stretched, are left with higher expenses. "With less existing storage facilities, we are now also risking losses because of timely access," he said.

While not every crop requires cold storage, those that rely on transport - and the diesel price hike will have a brutal impact, hitting both the ends of the chain - farmers and consumers, said Dr SV Hittalmani, retired Additional Director of the Horticulture Department.

To make up for the losses, farmers say they will be forced to raise prices at wholesale level. The price rise, they say, is not profit-driven - it is survival.

Produce such as tomatoes, grapes, and mangoes — which already see price fluctuations due to seasonality — could become more expensive, said Devaraj S from Farmers Association, adding that the hike in fuel prices will change consumer behaviour. He mentioned that consumers may begin reducing purchases of items, especially in urban markets. Traders, too, may cut back on bulk buying from farmers if transport costs continue to climb, disrupting availability and access in retail markets.

A major gap, farmers point out, is the limited capacity and infrastructure in existing godowns and cold storages. While most are managed by government departments, poor infrastructure and distance from farms limit their utility. "Even when we manage to store our produce, the facilities can only hold produce for 15 days — after that, the quality drops," Devaraj said.

37 units in Vijayapura

Of the 221 cold storage facilities in the state, Vijayapura has the highest of 37, followed by Ballari with 35 and Haveri with 33. Districts like Bengaluru Rural, Dakshina Kannada, Koppal, and Yadgir, however, have only one facility each. Kolar and Tumakuru - both major horticulture produce contributors have just three and two facilities, respectively.

WORK ON NANDI ROPEWAY MAY START IN MAY

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

AS the Karnataka government awaits approval from the Central government for the ambitious ropeway project in Nandi Hills, the state tourism department has set May 2025 as the target to lay the foundation stone.

Much to the chagrin of environmentalists and conservationists, the state government has applied on the Parivesh portal, managed by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), for clearance of the linear project, after the state forest department gave clearance but with conditions.

Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chikkaballapur, HC Girish said forest clearance has been accorded with a few conditions, including minimal tree felling, no drilling, no blasting, no use of JCBs inside the forest and no road construction of any kind. Manual labour at the site is permitted under the supervision of forest staffers and experts. All forest rules will be enforced as the location falls in the Nandi state forest.

According to the tourism department, for execution of the 2.93km ropeway, seven acres of land are needed at the lower terminal, of which 86 guntas is forest land. Two acres are needed atop Nandi Hill, where the ropeway will terminate. The total project cost is Rs 93.40 crore, and is aimed to be completed within 24 months.

The project is being executed by Damodar Ropeways and Infra Limited and Ashoka BuildCon Limited. They have formed a special purpose vehicle with Dynamicx Ropeway Private Limited to execute the project. The public-private partnership project is being executed under DBFOT (Design, Build, Operate, Finance and Transfer) model, tourism officials working on the project said.

"If all goes well, this will be first ropeway project in Karnataka. We had planned it in other locations like Jog Falls, Chamundi Hills and hillocks of Western Ghats, but are able to execute it only in Nandi Hills. We are banking on the April 2022 notification issued by the MoEFCC, which exempted public utility ropeways from the ambit of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980," the official added.

The project alignment has been changed owing to environmental concerns. From the earlier planned 17-18 pillars, the number has been reduced to 10 pillars for the ropeway, Karnataka Tourism Director KV Rajendra said.

As per the final project report, only one eucalyptus tree on forest land will be cut, and a tamarind tree will be pruned. There are no trees on the private land that is to be acquired. While environment clearance is awaited, work on land acquisition is under way. No blasting or drilling will be done at the site, and only pre-assembled pillars will be brought and installed at the site, Rajendra said.

'Transport most neglected sector by State, Centre'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

"THERE are over 15,000 school buses and vans in the city. While fees are fixed based on distance, we charge around Rs 24,000 per year, which will now be revised to Rs 30,000, a hike of around Rs 500 per month," Shanmugam PS, president, Karnataka United School and Light Motor Vehicle Drivers' Union said.

Nataraj Sharma, president of the Federation of Karnataka State Private Transport Associations, said, "Transport is one of the most neglected sectors by the state and Union governments. They have increased taxes and fuel prices, burdening the transport sector. School van and bus operators will be forced to revise their fees by 10-15%."

Fares of private buses and other vehicles ferrying employees to factories will also be revised. Private bus operators will also revise fares soon, he said.

CELEBRATING IN STYLE

Young Jain girls pose on their bikes during Mahavir Jayanti celebrations. Various programmes were held in the city on Thursday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

KIA's T2 is India's first 5-star terminal

Bengaluru: Terminal 2 of Kempegowda International Airport has been awarded a 5-star rating by Skytrax, making it the first airport in the country to achieve this recognition. In addition, KIA has also been named the Best Regional Airport in India and South Asia, cementing its reputation as a growing hub in the region. Hari Marar, MD & CEO of BIAL, called the recognition 'a testament to the team's passion and commitment to redefining travel.' Further, Skytrax CEO Edward Plaisted added, "With this achievement, KIA becomes the first airport in India to achieve this highest 5-star rating, the highest quality recognition for an airport."

Residents term garbage cess unscientific, burden

MOHAMMED YACOOB @ Bengaluru

HOTEL owners and commercial associations in Bengaluru have decided to approach Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, urging him to intervene and roll back the newly implemented garbage cess, calling it 'unscientific' and financial burdensome. As per the BBMP's new structure, properties with a 1,000 sqft area are required to pay Rs 2,000 per month as cess, amounting to Rs 24,000 annually. For hotels and lodges, the rate has been fixed at Rs 4,000 per month, which is Rs 48,000 per year.

PC Rao, president of Bruhat Bengaluru Hotels Association, voiced concerns over the impact on small business owners. "The new cess on garbage is an extra burden and is very unscientific. It will be burdensome for small hotels to pay Rs 48,000 per 1,000 sqft annually. We will ask the DCM to decrease the cess rates," he said.

Meanwhile, the Bengaluru Apartment Federation (BAF), which represents over 1,300 apartment complexes, has also raised objections. Satish Mallya, vice president of BAF, pointed out that apartment residents were being subjected to double taxation— once under the new garbage cess and again through the user fee paid individually. "Bulk generators, including apartments, are already charged," he said.

Following a meeting with BBMP Solid Waste Management Chief Harish Kumar, Mallya said the officials had assured them that revisions would be made. "For apartment complexes with more than 100 flats, individuals will no longer be charged separately. The user fee will be collected only from the association if the waste generated exceed 100 kilograms per day," he said.

BAF further argued that apartments are being unfairly targeted. "We are paying Rs 12 per kilo in user fees, just like apartments, hospitals, schools and commercial complexes but only apartments are told to segregate waste. On top of that, old apartment building don't have the infrastructure for composting, yet they are being pressured to do so," Mallya said.

GI TAG FOR PATTEDA ANCHU SAREE

Bengaluru: Visvesvaraya Trade Promotion Centre (VTPC), the nodal agency for Geographical Indications (GIs) in Karnataka, in association with Ramaiah College of Law Centre For Intellectual Property Rights (RCIPR) has facilitated the GI registration of Patteda Anchu Saree and Fabrics. This recognition is a significant achievement in preserving Karnataka's rich textile heritage and supporting traditional weavers, according to a press release from Ramaiah College. "Patteda Anchu Saree, known for its deep-coloured body and distinctive border, is a symbol of North Karnataka's handloom legacy. The GI tag was granted to the Gajendragad Nekarar Sahakari Utpadak Sangh. Along with RCIPR, commissioner of Textile Development and director of Handlooms and Textiles, Government of Karnataka, and VTPC, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Karnataka played a crucial role in guiding stakeholders through complex registration process," the release stated.

UK banker connects to roots with KA 25 on his Tesla

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hubballi

SANDEEP Hoskoti, a banker from London and a native of Hubballi, has a unique way of showcasing his roots. He has customised the number plate of his Tesla to resemble the Hubballi vehicle registration code. The personalised plate reads 'KA 25 HBL', in a nod to his hometown.

His story on the new registration plate is creating a buzz in Hubballi. KA 25, the vehicle registration series for Hubballi, has a special place in the hearts of people in North Karnataka.

"For those of us who cannot live in Hubballi due to work commitments, this number plate is a way to feel we are still there, at least in spirit," Sandeep said.

Sandeep Hoskoti poses with his family in front of his car with unique registration number at Chelmsford in UK | EXPRESS

"When I used to study in Manipal, the registration number of my bike was KA 25. It was a proud feeling. Wherever we see KA series number plates outside Karnataka, we connect to our roots," he said.

Explaining the bidding and process to get the registration number of his choice, Sandeep said he had applied for the KA 25 series for his car a few months ago, and it was cleared without any hassle and he could get it for the base price.

"There are several registration numbers resembling names in high demand, and the bidding goes to higher values. Whereas I had no issue getting KA 25 registered for the base price," Sandeep added.

Sandeep is also a founding member of Chelmsford Kannadigaru, which conducts Rajyotsava and Ugadi festivals in a grand manner.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

11TH April : Today's tone is Virgoan. With that simple statement, what I mean is that the people who are favoured are those who take care with detail, pay attention to instructions and do what they say they are going to do. Individuals who favour anarchy and chaos should stand back and wait until conditions move their way in a few days – or risk coming unstuck!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
You may now tell business associates and anyone with whom you are financially connected to put up or shut up. But you must do so soon, before a number of planets remove your advantage by changing signs. Long-distance and overseas connections are opening, by the way, so stay alive to new opportunities.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
You may still be in a bullish mood, buoyed up by the influence of aggressive Mars. It is good to be sure of your ground, yet nobody would advise you to be so confident that you overlook or ignore certain essential details. One word of warning, though - you could be throwing good money after bad.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Mercury is in such a supportive position that you may be sure that bad feeling will be avoided even if partners are still being frustratingly obtuse. Continue to press for firm agreement. The sooner you get partners committed and tied down, the better.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
All that has happened in the past will pale into insignificance beside the immense and profound changes which will be sweeping you before them later on. You are now entering a period of personal transformation which is going to find you discovering talents you never dreamt existed.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
The first few steps in a new friendship are often hesitant, even for you. However, people who come into your life now must be cultivated, for they will prove to be valuable allies in times to come. Even if you imagine that someone you meet is a rival, you may be mistaken.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Much has been written about the creative potential of this particular phase, not all of which has yet made sense. Today's planetary picture crystallises a number of very subtle trends, pointing you to a life that is both more satisfying and productive.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
You must pay more attention to working partnerships for the simple reason that colleagues hold the key to your future. You may already have found that fresh light has been shed on formerly confused circumstances. Such clarity is most welcome, as I'm sure you'll agree.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
The Sun, Mercury and Venus have come to your assistance, lightening your load and relieving you of pressing domestic questions. It is looking increasingly likely that you will be saved by the prompt action of a friend, perhaps someone you have ignored.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
There are complications in the air. Although you may have to resign yourself to a continuing mystery, you have a choice as to whether to devote your time to work or family issues. Possibly the latter will be more enjoyable, although the former may be more necessary.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
As you have realised, there is little that you can do if you don't have the necessary funds. Joint financial affairs must now be settled, and deals must be signed and sealed. Otherwise you may find that you have run out of time, and that partners may decide to stand up for themselves.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
This is an intense period for those in the property market. Positive trends and obstacles compete for your attention, but after everything has been taken into consideration you may seem to be running on the spot. Perhaps you should just slow down and take a rest.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
By tradition this is a time of year when events should run in your favour, yet you cannot count on success unless you do your best, drum up support and leave no stone unturned in your drive to better yourself. You must, repeat must, consult partners before you take a controversial decision.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle ⬇

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	8							
3	4	1		6		7		
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					6			3
		4		7		2	5	1
							3	
		9			1	6		

9	6	3	5	2	1	4	7	8
1	5	7	3	4	8	9	2	6
2	4	8	9	7	6	1	3	5
5	7	2	8	3	4	6	9	1
6	8	4	1	9	2	3	5	7
3	9	1	7	6	5	2	8	4
7	1	9	6	8	3	5	4	2
8	2	6	4	5	9	7	1	3
4	3	5	2	1	7	8	6	9

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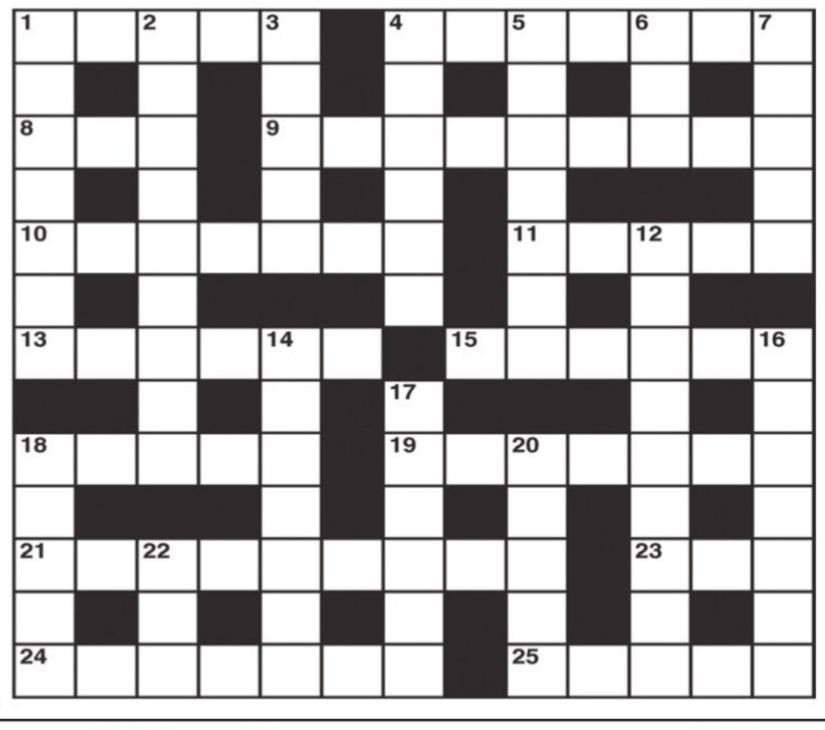
Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 Spot on the screen about a thousand aircraft (5)
4 Fashion arbiter of Welsh taste (7)
8 Contend it's a quarter past six (3)
9 She helps her mistress transform dismal day (5,4)
10 Gives no answer (7)
11 Native love call stirred (5)
13 They are bound to hold different views for instance (6)
15 A girl graduate about to burst into tears (6)
18 A light across the ship (5)
19 A failure as a fast dye? (7)
21 Cannon to right and left of one by decree (9)
23 She is partly able to read and write (3)
24 A sorry speech? (7)
25 Weary of being told to go around quietly (5)

DOWN

1 Moving via Arab state in Europe (7)
2 Unusually fine story with moral defying description (9)
3 They may be driven to support things (5)
4 Is unusually hard on the outside but edible (6)
5 Not a silent thief (7)
6 Creature that creeps around one's neck perhaps (3)
7 Coming in before going out again? (5)
12 Hostile fire one can and does get involved in (9)
14 A reminder men hold me to (7)
16 Be good at drawing? (7)
17 Not a musical score (6)
18 Perfume from far Oman (5)
20 Appears to understand the manuscript (5)
22 It's less arduous for two (3)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Desolation, 8 Polka, 9 Quartet, 10 Termini, 11 India, 12 Agency, 14 Relief, 17 Reign, 19 Patella, 21 Sitters, 22 Tract, 23 Widescreen.

Down: 2 Enlarge, 3 Okapi, 4 Acquit, 5 Imagine, 6 Noted, 7 At half-mast, 8 Puts across, 13 Contend, 15 Ill fame, 16 Spasms, 18 In tow, 20 Tutor.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

CEANT

SAEEC

LEAIGO

MDOOIN

Hey there! What brings you to our little part of the world?
I just need some alone time. It's gotten so crowded at home.
I can't believe you found us. Stay as long as you need to.
THE PENGUINS ENJOY LIVING ON THE LEAST-POPULATED CONTINENT BECAUSE OF THE ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

"____ - _____"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DOUSE SWEET FUMBLE JOVIAL
Answer: They were looking for an affordable home, but the first one they saw didn't — "ABODE" WELL

A man, his son, and his neighbour's son drowned in Hosakere Lake in Kolar district on Thursday. The deceased are Ramesh, 40, his son Agasthya, 8, and his neighbour's son, Charan, 13. According to police, Ramesh took the children to a lake since it was a holiday. When the children went into deeper water and began to drown, Ramesh, who also couldn't swim, went after them, and all three drowned

Pesticide residues found in water bottles, says FDA

Contamination due to improper water sourcing, poor quality control

RISHITA KHANNA @Bengaluru

THE Food Safety and Drug Administration (FDA) on Thursday said the presence of pesticide residues and high levels of total dissolved solids (TDS), the primary contaminants, were reasons to flag several packaged drinking water samples from Bengaluru as "unsafe" and "substandard".

Following an FDA report on 255 samples which was tested, 95 samples across Karnataka were unsafe to drink, and 88 were of substandard quality. FDA officials told *TNIE* that out of 27 contaminated samples in Bengaluru, the majority tested positive for pesticide residues, and the rest tested positive for excess TDS and other mineral imbalances, which can potentially affect kidneys and can even cause cancer.

Out of 27 samples, four are from Bengaluru Rural, nine from Bengaluru Urban, and 14 from BBMP limits, comprising two from BBMP East, one from BBMP North, six from South zone and five from BBMP West.

Officials indicated that in addition to the presence of harmful chemicals, they suspect contamination in the packaged drinking water is likely due to improper water sourcing, inadequate filtration, and poor quality control at local bottling units. "In several cases, the water is directly drawn from borewells situated near agricultural fields where heavy pesticide use is common, leading to chemical seepage into the groundwater," an official explained, adding that the overall analysis is still ongoing. The official remarked that cases will be registered against manufacturers once the survey is completed. While the samples were collected to check the general quality of products, legal samples were taken later to check for anything suspicious. Legal samples are collected in the presence of the shop owner, so the samples can be used to take action against the seller, including fines or court cases.

"The presence of high levels of TDS, pesticide residues, calcium, magnesium, fluoride, and iron in packaged drinking water can make it unsafe for consumption. High TDS signal the presence of harmful contaminants. Pesticide residues are dangerous and can lead to serious health problems like hormonal imbalances or even cancer over long-term exposure. While calcium and magnesium are essential minerals, too much of them can cause water hardness, affect taste, and in some cases, lead to kidney issues. Similarly, fluoride can result in dental or skeletal fluorosis," the FDA official said, explaining how the samples are classified as unsafe and substandard.

PANEER SAMPLES TEST POSITIVE FOR HARMFUL BACTERIA

FDA also revealed that nine out of the 55 paneer samples tested were found unsafe for consumption, as they contained "salmonella", a harmful bacterium. Officials said salmonella typically contaminates food due to unhygienic production practices and unclean cooking equipment. "Despite the contamination, sellers continued to circulate the product, as the bacteria do not affect the paneer's taste, smell, or appearance, making it dangerous for consumers," an official said. In total, the department has collected 249 paneer samples across Karnataka after complaints were raised by the consumers with the Chief Minister's Office. The CMO has to conduct quality checks, which led to the sample analysis.

CRICKET ON CANVAS

British artist Andy Brown spot paints during the IPL match between Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Delhi Capitals at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium, in Bengaluru on Thursday | VINOD KUMAR T

5 dead in two separate accidents

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

FIVE people died in two major accidents on the city outskirts -- in Nelamangala and Devanahalli traffic police limits -- on Thursday morning. The deceased include three members of a family.

Gopal (60) and his family were heading to Hiriyur in Chitradurga for a naming ceremony, when the car they were travelling in hit the median and toppled off the road. The accident occurred near Anchemane Cross on the Bengaluru-Pune NH-48 around 10.30am.

While Gopal's wife Shashikala (54) died on the spot, Gopal, his daughter Deepa (25) and car driver Gopal (45) succumbed to injuries at a hospital. Deepa's children, aged 5 years and 18 months, were injured and are hospitalised, but are said to be out of danger.

The driver was reportedly overspeeding and lost control of the car. Nelamangala police informed the family of the deceased and sent the two children with them.

In the Devanahalli accident, the driver of a minibus rammed a lorry while trying to overtake it, at Kannamangala Gate on the Bengaluru-Ballari Road, around 6.45am. One passenger died and 24 others sustained injuries. The condition of the driver, Bhramesh, who lost one of his legs, is said to be critical.

The deceased passenger is Kavya (25), a native of Bommasandra in Gowribidanur, who worked in the housekeeping department of Kempegowda International Airport. The other injured are out of danger.

'Ensure panic buttons are fixed properly in public vehicles'

AKNISREE KARTHIK @Bengaluru

WHILE the state transport department has mandated affixing emergency panic buttons in public vehicles, including buses, cabs, maxi-cabs, and goods vehicles with national permit, it has also ordered that the panic devices and buttons be in working condition when accessed by people during emergencies.

The department said the wires of the Vehicle Location Tracking Device (VLTD) and emergency button should be connected properly and the power button be kept on, so that if anyone pushes it during an emergency, the 24x7 Command and Control Centre at the Transport Department head office in Shanthinagar may duly get an alert, eliciting immediate action.

"A cab driver recently made a video, where he was seen pushing the panic button installed in his car. He claimed that there were no calls or any action after he pushed the button. He said that he paid Rs 15,000 to get the VLTD affixed in the vehicle, and now it's of no use," a senior official from the transport department said.

He explained that the panic button would not have been in working condition, which was why the driver claimed that there was no action.

"When we inspected, we found that in some vehicles, the VLTDs and emergency buttons were not installed properly. In some, the wires weren't connected, while in others, the power button wasn't turned on to ensure that the VLTD worked," he said.

He explained that when the panic button is pushed, the command centre will get an alert with the vehicle's exact location coordinates, and the control room will then alert the jurisdictional police for action.

HC dismisses PIL seeking ouster of BU Associate Professor

Bengaluru: The Karnataka High Court has dismissed a public interest litigation filed against an associate professor of Bengaluru University and imposed a cost of Rs 7,500 on the petitioners. A division bench of Chief Justice N V Anjaria and Justice M I Arun dismissed the petition filed by H T Umesh and two others, seeking to oust Dr M Shivashankar on the ground that he is not qualified to hold the post and consequently the post of professor to which he is promoted.

Adopt proper method to tackle erring officials: HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka government should adopt and implement a proper mechanism for taking action against erring officials, who fail to take immediate action under provisions of the Karnataka Scheduled Castes And Scheduled Tribes (Prohibition of Transfer of Certain Lands) Act, by making suitable provisions in the Act and rules thereunder, the Karnataka High Court has said.

"The lack of willingness on the part of the authorities to initiate proceedings at the earliest, as the lands granted being government land and waiting for the grantees or descendants to approach, shows the apathy with which the provisions are dealt with," said a division bench of Justice V Kameswar Rao and Justice TM Nadaf, dismissing the appeal filed by Narayanamma from Hebbagodi in Anekal taluk over the dispute pertaining to sale of land granted under the Act, and imposing a cost of Rs 25,000. They challenged the single judge order dated September 7, 2022.

While passing the order, the court placed on record certain shortcomings observed in cases of this nature. Though the state government enacted the Act in the year 1978 with all provisions, officials enjoined with the powers of the Act are very slow to respond, despite suo motu powers being given to take immediate action, the court added.

The court further said the original authority being the Assistant Commissioner, the sub-divisional revenue head is aware of records of the land and grant order. A beneficial act enacted with the object of providing a helping hand to socially and economically depressed classes, is found insufficient to help the suppressed classes whose ignorance and poverty have been exploited by people of affluent and powerful sections, to obtain sales or mortgages either for nominal consideration or no consideration at all, the court observed, issuing directions to the state government.

EXPRESS READ

Manipal Hosp ties up with Google Cloud to boost AI-driven healthcare

In a move to digitise and streamline healthcare operations, Manipal Hospitals has partnered with Google Cloud to integrate artificial intelligence (AI) across its services. According to a statement, ePharmacy order processing time, which usually takes 15 minutes, has been reduced to under five minutes, whereas nurse handover durations have been cut to just 20 minutes from 90 minutes. Nurse handover is a process of transferring information and responsibility of a patient from one nurse to another. It was announced at Google Cloud's Cloud Next '25 event in Las Vegas. ePharmacy, now handles over 60,000 data entries daily and serves over 1 lakh patients. It uses generative AI through Gemini on Vertex AI to automate prescription processing, eliminate transcription errors, and provide drug information.

₹10 crore worth ambergris seized by Kodagu police, 10 arrested

Madikeri: Kodagu police have seized Rs 10 crore worth Ambergris and have arrested 10 accused in the case. Police received a tip-off about an expensive, illegal consignment being ferried through Kodagu. Similarly, around 8.30 am, the Virajpet police led by DySP Mahesh Kumar and others stopped two vehicles for an inspection over suspicion. The cops found a very suspicious item in the car that weighed about 10.3 kg which was confirmed as Ambergris. "Ambergris is the digestive waste of endangered Sperm Whales and sale of the same is illegal under the Wildlife Protection Act. During inspection, the police recovered 10.3 kg of ambergris from 10 accused who were travelling in two vehicles," confirmed SP K Ramarajan during a press conference.

2 convicted for drug peddling

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act Special Court on Thursday convicted two drug peddlers, including a Nigerian, for trying to sell narcotics. They were arrested by the Commercial Street police station near the Union Street junction on Cubbon Road in February 2021. 350 grams of MDMA were confiscated from them. The Nigerian, O Okoro Christian Ifeanyi, 36, was sentenced to 15 years in prison and was fined Rs 1.75 lakh. The other convict, B Rohit Christopher, 28, was sentenced to 14 years in jail and was fined Rs 1.50 lakh.

Both were booked under the NDPS Act and the Foreigners Act of 1946. Okoro had come to India in 2018 on a three-month visa. However, he overstayed after the lapse in the visa. After meeting Rohit, both started the drugs business.

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF TOOL DESIGN
(A Government of India Society Ministry of MSME)
Balanagar 'X' Roads, Hyderabad - 500 037 (TS) INDIA

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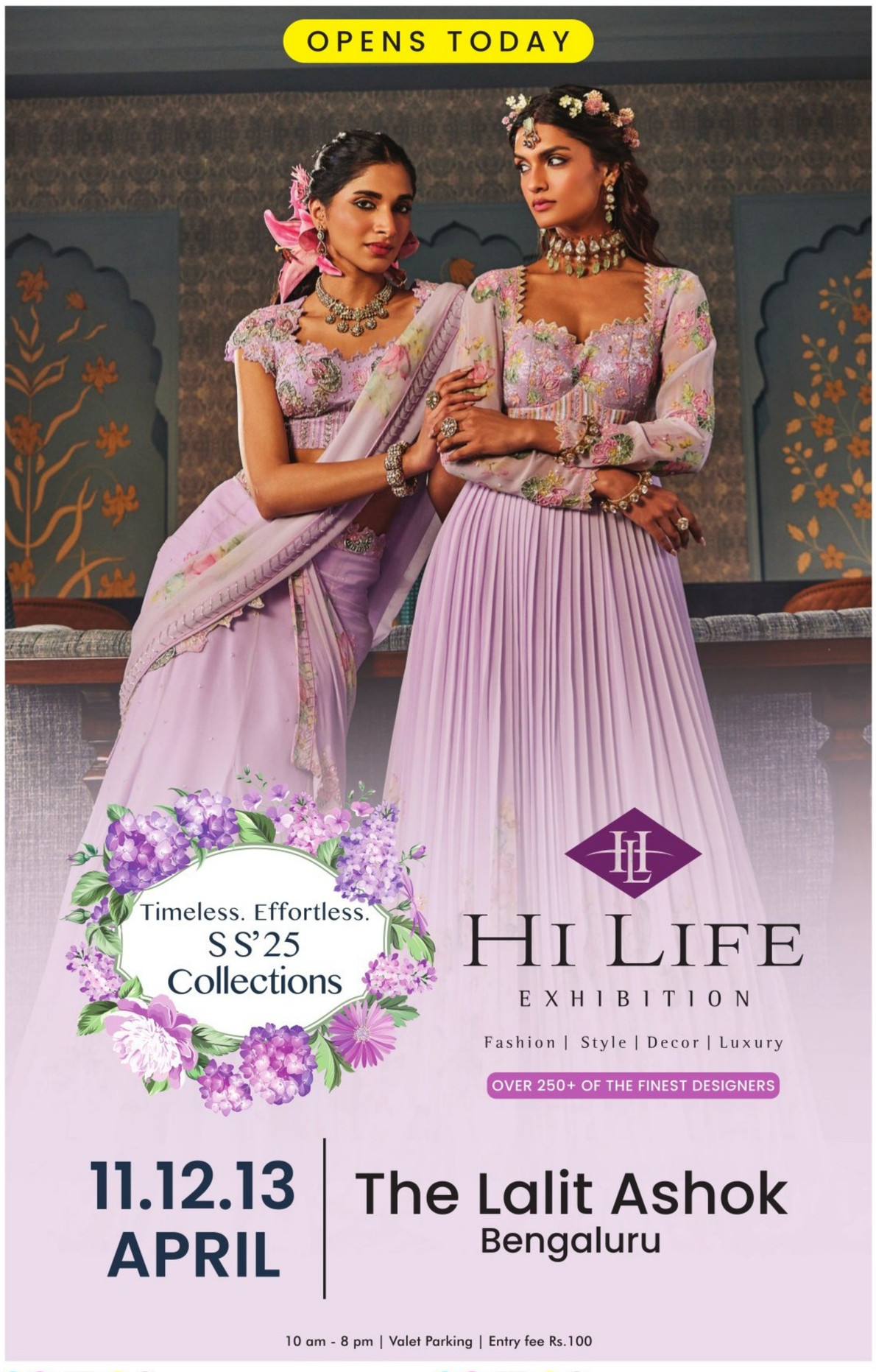

Revenue Minister Krishna Byregowda said the government has taken up the task of making villages across the state 'podi'-free by rectifying errors in the Record of Rights, Tenancy, and Crops (RTC) by the next year

CONG CHALKS OUT OWN CAMPAIGN TO COUNTER BJP'S JANAKROSHA

GOP plans rally on April 17; DKS says saffron party should protest against Centre's policies

Youth Congress members protest against the Union Government for hiking the prices of petrol, diesel and cooking gas, in Mysuru on Thursday | UDAYASHANKAR S

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Ruling Congress in Karnataka will counter the Opposition's BJP Janakrosh Yatre by holding a massive rally in Bengaluru's Freedom Park on April 17. Briefing the media, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, AICC General Secretary in-charge of Karnataka affairs Randeep Singh Surjewala, among other senior leaders, will take part in the rally. Shivakumar, who is also the state Congress president, said similar rallies will be held in district and taluk headquarters in the subsequent days.

The DyCM said that on the day the BJP launched the Janakrosh rally in the state, the Union Government increased excise duty on petrol and diesel by Rs 2 and the price of LPG cylinders by Rs 50. "The BJP should carry a board saying that the Janakrosh rally is against the Union Government," Shivakumar quipped.

He pointed out that because of inflation and the price rise by the Centre, the state was forced to increase the price of milk and water among commodities.

"Our prices have also increased because the Centre has increased prices of fuel and other commodities. We had no choice but to increase the prices because of the Centre's policies," he added.

Claiming that the Congress government has allocated Rs 52,000 crore per annum to implement the five guarantees to improve the lives of people affected by the Central policies, Shivakumar said, "We have increased the price of water minimally. We have taken a decision in favour of the poor by fixing the garbage collection fee lower than what was fixed by the previous BJP government."

Shivakumar said that the price of crude oil fell by 4.23% per barrel in the international market last Wednesday. "The Centre, however, did not reduce fuel prices in the country. The base price of a litre of petrol is Rs 42.6, but petrol is being sold at Rs 103 per litre. The government is getting a profit of Rs 60 per litre. Diesel is priced at Rs 91. They are making a profit of Rs 43. They have imposed 60 percent tax on petrol and diesel," the DyCM claimed.

He defended the milk price hike as it is in the interest of farmers as the price of feed for the cattle has skyrocketed. He compared the price of gold, mobile phones, televisions, refrigerators, air conditioners, and other items during the UPA regime with the present NDA government. "An Indian Rupee was Rs 59 against the US dollar then, and now it is Rs 89. The price of cement, which was Rs 268 per bag then, has now increased to Rs 410. No one can control all these prices," he said.

The Centre has also increased highway tolls, Shivakumar said, asking if Ashoka has turned a blind eye towards the Central policies. He said the BJP has launched its rally as they are jealous of the Congress government following the successful implementation of the guarantees.

The BJP should continue with its yatra, highlighting people's anger against the Centre for the price rise, he said. "The rally should not be stopped for any reason. Why is no one talking about the loss caused to the people of the country due to the US tariff policy? Why are you (BJP leaders) not opening your mouth even after the stock market crashed earlier this week?" Shivakumar said.

BJP-JDS honeymoon nearing end, says Sudhakar

Chikkaballapur: The honeymoon between the BJP and JDS is on the last leg as both the parties are now in separate corners, said Higher Education Minister Dr M C Sudhakar. "Despite being in an alliance, both the parties have taken up separate protests. The BJP's Janakrosh yatra and the JDS' poster campaign clearly indicate that all is not well in the alliance. The alliance was forged just for the sake of power and now it is showing cracks," he told reporters here on Thursday. He claimed that the saffron party does not want the support of the JDS in the upcoming local bodies election. "BJP leaders did not involve their alliance partner in their protest. So, the JDS is going on its own and has taken up a poster campaign. This clearly shows that the alliance is likely to break up soon," he said. Slamming the opposition parties, he said contrary to their stance, the people of the state are happy with the Congress government because of the development works and guarantee schemes. ENS

DKS: No change in KPCC prez's post anytime soon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

DEPUTY Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Thursday hinted that there will be no change in the KPCC president's post in the near future, as the high command has not yet discussed the matter.

"There are no changes in the KPCC except for the appointment of some office-bearers and a change in the district presidents. Apart from this, no one has discussed any issue with me," he clarified.

Asked about the nomination of four Legislative Council members, he said it will be discussed when AICC general secretary and Karnataka in-charge Randeep Singh Surjewala arrives in Bengaluru on April 17.

"I will always stand for party workers. I will always stand for those who work for the party," he said, hinting that priority will be given to honest party workers in the nomination. "The rumour that there is no consensus between CM and DCM on the nomination of MLCs is all a creation of a section of the media," he added.

On CM's economic advisor and MLA Basavaraj Rayareddy's reported statement about corruption in the state, Shivakumar said the latter has clarified that he did not make such a statement. "I will call him and talk to him about this," he said.

To a query on some ministers allegedly delaying the payment of bills and the contractors' association alleging that ministers were seeking bribes for NoC, he said, "Let them complain to the Lokayukta and the government about this. Our government will administer justice. We do not encourage any bribery. They may have mentioned my department. They may have complained about all departments. Let the contractors give a written complaint and we will get the inquiry conducted. We have released 10-20 per cent of grants for their bills," he said.

False allegation against CM: DCM

Asked about the allegations that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah received kickbacks for the renewal of mining leases of eight companies during his first tenure, Shivakumar said there was no substance in it. "They (detractors) may be trying to make allegations, but there is no truth in it. No one can renew leases outside the legal framework. The chief minister has acted responsibly in this matter. All allegations are false," he said.

On Union Minister H D Kumaraswamy's statement that he will release "tons of documents" against him, Shivakumar hit back, saying, "I wish him success. Also, when shall I send the lorry to transport the documents?"

Deputy CM DK Shivakumar speaks to reporters at the KPCC office in Bengaluru on Thursday | EXPRESS

B'LURU 2ND AIRPORT

Study by expert firms after AAI report, says MB Patil

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A HIGH-level team from the Airports Authority of India (AAI), which has inspected three sites for the proposed second airport for Bengaluru, is likely to share its report with the Karnataka government in a month, Infrastructure Development Minister MB Patil said on Thursday. It will then be taken to experts in airport development for a detailed study, after which the Karnataka government will finalise the location, Patil added. On Thursday, Patil said that the airport location will depend on factors such as passenger and cargo traffic and industrial needs.

"There is a condition that another airport should not be built within a distance of 150 km from Kempegowda International Airport until 2033. Only if we start the works for the construction of the second airport near Bengaluru, we can development it by 2030," Patil said, adding that if the works are delayed, the second airport will not be ready even by 2040.

'Cong has taken note of Rayareddy's comments'

On the comment made by Senior Congress leader and Chief Minister's Economic Advisor Basavaraj Rayareddy that Karnataka is number one in corruption, Patil said the former should have also said who is involved in corruption. "Congress has taken note of his words," Patil said. He said that some exceptions are made to the one-person-one-post rule in the Congress and that such exceptions should be made on the basis of experience and seniority.

Only district-level airport can be built in Sira: Min

Infrastructure Development Minister MB Patil said former minister and Congress leader TB Jayachandra is making efforts to get an airport to his constituency Sira and that only a district-level airport can be built there, but not an international airport. Also, referring to BJP MLC Arvind Bellad's request that a new airport be built in North Karnataka, the Minister said that an international airport cannot be built just by providing land. He said that the Vijayapura Airport is all set to be inaugurated in six months.

Batting for Sira, Dr G says no one can hijack project

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Tumakuru/Bengaluru

HOME Minister Dr G Parameshwara on Thursday said no one can "hijack" the second international airport project as the finalisation of the site will be done based on technical feasibility.

Speaking to reporters in Tumakuru, he said if an airport is built in Vasanthanarasapura in Sira, Tumakuru district, it will benefit about 20 districts, and urged the Centre to consider the suggestion of senior Congress leader T B Jayachandra and 35 MLAs that the airport be set up in Sira.

"A survey has already been conducted in two places -- Nelamangala and Kanakapura. They (AAI) have their own criteria for an airport based on which they will recommend the site. They did not come to conduct the survey in Sira. It will be beneficial if this is considered," he told reporters.

Meanwhile, DCM and KPCC president D K Shivakumar, who has been reportedly pitching for the airport at his Kanakapura assembly constituency, on Thursday clarified that he will be happy if any site in the state is considered for the airport. He maintained that he never lobbied or was involved in the finalisation of the sites as the minister concerned, M B Patil, has been handling it.

"If an airport comes up in any of the sites in Karnataka, I am okay with it. Any place, from Chamarajanagar to Bidar and Kalaburagi, is the same to me. Some leaders might have wished it to be built in Sira as the price of the land is cheap there. But it is not for us to take the decision, but the Central government," he said.

PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi said he had written to the Centre six months ago that the second international airport should be built near Sira. This will benefit several districts in North Karnataka, including Hubballi-Dharwad and Belagavi. He said government land is also available in Sira.

"It can't be assumed that big companies will not come forward to build an airport near Sira. The situation in Bengaluru should also be taken care of, as it is not just Bengalureans who go abroad and people from other districts do too," he added.

HK Patil slams 'misuse' of guv's powers

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister HK Patil has expressed concern over Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot's decision to withhold assent to four Bills passed by the state legislature. "I will not let this slide," Patil said, adding, "I will raise the matter either directly in the cabinet or with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah himself." Patil said that governors are vested with certain powers but those powers are not to be misused.

Patil shared that he personally visited the Raj Bhavan to meet Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot when clarifications were requested, underlining the seriousness of the deadlock.

"We have to ensure the Governor receives the clarifications he is seeking," Patil said, but stressed the need to swiftly resolve the bottleneck.

Amidst the rising tension, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah unleashed a stinging tweet: "The BJP is not just misusing institutions – it is dismantling the very Constitution that holds our Republic together. From ED to Governors, every tool of democracy is being turned into a weapon."

The confrontation has sparked a fierce debate: How can a Governor send back Bills that have already been thoroughly debated and passed by both Houses?

Former Law Minister TB Jayachandra recalled his own experience. "When I was Parliamentary Affairs Minister, I frequently met the Governor to clarify provisions of various Bills," he said. While acknowledging the Governor's right to seek clarity, he noted that "often the complaint is that bills aren't fully debated or explained to the public." Still, he insisted, "That's no excuse to delay governance."

BJP leaders to meet Khader next week

Bengaluru: BJP MLAs who were suspended during the recent budget session along with their party leaders are likely to meet Speaker UT Khader, to urge him to revoke their suspension. Khader is yet to take any decision on revoking their suspension. On the last day of the budget session last month, 18 BJP MLAs were suspended for six months for unruly behaviour. Khader told TNIE that it is not a punishment. They had created a ruckus and caused hindrance to pass the Finance Bill, which is not right, the Speaker said. BJP leaders have sought an appointment and he might meet them next week, he said. Asked whether the suspended MLAs wanted to meet him, he said he doesn't know. "I am at my constituency now, and next week I will be in Bengaluru. BJP leaders including LoP R Ashoka are expected to meet me," he said. On whether he would revoke their suspension, he said, "I have to discuss it with Law Minister HK Patil, senior BJP leaders, Floor leaders and others," he added. ENS

Greens vow legal, political battle against Mahadayi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Belagavi

WHILE the Karnataka government is attempting to launch the Kalasa-Banduri project in haste, even before the Centre's green signal, environmental activists in the state and Goa have vowed to continue their struggle to put the brakes on it.

Stepping up efforts to protect the ecologically sensitive Mahadayi basin, several prominent environmentalists, farmers, religious leaders and social activists held a public meeting in Khanapur on Wednesday to oppose the Karnataka government's proposed land acquisition for the Bhandura water diversion project. The plan involves installing an underground pipeline in the Mahadayi basin, which critics say will have devastating ecological consequences.

The event, organised under the banner 'Save Mhadei, Save Malaprabha, Save Khanapur Taluka, Save Rains', saw many environmental leaders and activists terming the project as a serious threat to water security, forest cover and livelihood across Belagavi, Goa and parts of North Karnataka.

At the meeting, the attendees passed resolutions to intensify opposition to the Mahadayi water diversion project. Farmer leaders and activists jointly called on the people of North Karnataka and Goa to unite in preventing what they described as a politically motivated initiative.

Environmental activists Dilip Kamat, Capt Nitin Dhond, Sujit Mulgund and Sharada Gopal address the media after a meeting in Khanapur on Wednesday | EXPRESS

Protesters displayed placards and banners with the slogan 'Our Mhadei, Our Water, Our Bhimgad' and blamed Karnataka authorities of reviving a previously shelved plan under the guise of the Kalasa-Banduri water diversion project — this time without obtaining the necessary environmental clearances or permissions.

Addressing the gathering, veteran environmentalist Dilip Kamat warned that implementing the diversion would be catastrophic not only for Khanapur and Goa but also for North Karnataka as a whole. "Diverting the Kalsa, Bhandura and other tributaries to the Malaprabha River will accelerate desertification in northern Karnataka and submerge forests and villages in the Western Ghats," he said. "Deforestation in ecologically sensitive areas like the Bhimgad periphery would disrupt rainfall patterns and severely deplete water sources for both the Malaprabha and Mhadei rivers," he added.

Eco-conservator and activist Capt Nitin Dhond challenged claims that Mahadayi's waters were "wasted" as they flowed into the sea. He labelled the proposed diversion scientifically flawed, citing studies by the Norwegian Institute for Water Research, IISc and other institutions. "North Karnataka is gradually becoming arid due to deforestation and reckless development," he warned.

He further cautioned against dam construction on the Kalsa, Bhandura and Haltar streams. "These dams would reverse the natural flow of the Mhadei, devastating the Bhimgad and Mhadei wildlife sanctuaries and destroying the fragile Western Ghats ecosystem," Dhond said. Referring to the Madhav Gadgil and Kasturirangan reports, he reminded the audience that the Mhadei and Malaprabha basins fall under the most sensitive ecological zones and warned of irreversible damage. "We are fighting for the future of North Karnataka and the survival of the fragile Khanapur ecosystem," Dhond stated.

Farmer Kallappa Ghadi, who has received a land acquisition notice, said several gram panchayats, including Karambol, have resolved to oppose the land acquisition. He encouraged affected families to approach their elected representatives and speak out against the project.

A memorandum detailing their concerns will be submitted to the Deputy Commissioner of Belagavi and other authorities.

Monopoly-like functioning in MUDA: Lokayukta report

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

THE report stated that there were many instances of MUDA developing residential layouts without following the land acquisition procedure, causing huge losses to land owners. But no steps were taken to act against the officials responsible for such violations. There were also instances of development of layouts without land acquisition, but with only relinquished deeds in violation of law.

No steps were taken to act against the commissioners, who failed to submit reports on the resolutions passed against the Karnataka Urban Development Authorities (KUDA) Act, 1987, at the MUDA meetings. In cases where reports were submitted, no actions were taken by the state government.

Interestingly, keeping thousands of sites vacant in various layouts of MUDA for many years despite lakhs of people applying for them was also a major reason for officials indulging in fraudulent acts. Even sites were not reserved for specific purposes as per law. Records were not maintained on the total number of plots, including corner and commercial sites, in each layout.

Strangely, MUDA officials did not disclose under what rules compensatory sites were allotted for the layout developed without land acquisition. The officials seemed to be unaware of laws pertaining to urban development. Even resolutions were passed based on the decision of the chairman of MUDA without putting them to vote during the meetings. The Lokayukta police stated that many employees and officials have been working in MUDA for many years without any transfers. This led to a monopoly-like functioning, affecting public works.

The Lokayukta police recommended disciplinary action against four officials, including Kumar Naik, the then deputy commissioner of Mysuru, Malige Shankar, the then tahsildar of Mysuru, and Siddappaji, the then revenue inspector.

Stating that the trio have retired and the transaction of land in question was done 19 years ago, the Lokayukta police left the decision of taking action against them to the government. They also left the decision of taking action against Shankarappa, who now works as a surveyor in Mysuru, to the government.

The Puducherry Assembly is all set to become a paperless legislature under the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) scheme, with plans to invite the union minister for parliamentary affairs for its official inauguration

Security personnel outside the NIA headquarters, where 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks key conspirator Tahawwur Hussain Rana was brought, in New Delhi on Thursday | PTI

Rana's extradition may shed light on his Kochi visit days before 26/11

NIA probe revealed he had stayed at a hotel near Marine Drive on November 16, 2008

TOBY ANTONY @ Kochi

THE extradition of Tahawwur Hussain Rana, a key conspirator in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, to India is expected to shed light on his brief visit to Kochi in November 2008. Following his arrest in the US in 2009, the Kerala Police had gathered information indicating that Rana spent nearly 24 hours in the city, just days before the attacks.

Former state police chief Jacob Punnoose, who headed the Kerala Police from December 2008 to August 2012, said details of Rana's Kochi stay surfaced only after his arrest abroad, nearly a year after the attacks.

"We found that he had stayed at a hotel in Kochi for about 24 hours, but the purpose of the visit and whom he met remain unclear. Hopefully, his extradition will help reveal more. We understand Indian agencies have already questioned him about this," he said.

The Kerala Police had shared the information with the NIA, which later took over the probe. Punnoose suggested that Rana may have been in Kochi for a covert meeting, rather than for activities directly linked to terrorism in the state.

"In espionage circles, neutral locations are often chosen for confidential meetings. If someone wants to meet secretly, they usually select a location far from their base. In that context, Kochi may have been chosen for such a meeting," he said.

> **We found that he (Tahawwur Rana) had stayed at a hotel in Kochi for about 24 hours, but the purpose of the visit and whom he met remain unclear**
>
> Jacob Punnoose, former chief of Kerala Police

NIA investigations revealed that Rana had stayed at a hotel near Marine Drive on November 16, 2008, under the pretext of conducting overseas recruitment. He had even published a newspaper advertisement, inviting applications from job seekers interested in opportunities in the US and Canada. He returned to Mumbai, the next day. It is also suspected that David Coleman Headley, a US national of Pakistani origin who conducted reconnaissance of the 26/11 attack locations, too visited Kochi prior to the attacks. Headley was arrested by the FBI and interrogated by Indian agencies in the US.

Former Kerala DGP Loknath Behera, who had led an NIA team to interrogate Headley in Chicago, in 2010, said Rana's extradition will provide clarity on the whole conspiracy leading to the 26/11 attacks.

Menstruating girl made to write exam outside class

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Coimbatore

A private school principal in Coimbatore was suspended on Thursday after a Class-8 Dalit girl was forced to sit outside her classroom on the steps and write an exam due to her menstruation cycle.

The girl's father said that his daughter, who recently attained puberty, had missed school the previous week due to discomfort. Despite informing the school administration in advance about her condition and requesting a separate desk and bench for her to write the exams in the classroom, the father said the facilities were not provided.

"When she went to school on Monday to write the Social Science exam, the school administration did not make the arrangement we had requested. Instead, the principal, M Anandhi, forced her to write the exam on the steps outside the classroom. As she wrote the exam for two-and-half hours, she suffered leg pain," he said.

On Wednesday, the parents revisited the school and found their daughter again writing the exam outside. The father said, "When we inquired with the principal, she casually responded, "Is it a big problem?" The girl's mother recorded a video of the incident, which the father later shared with the girl's grandfather, a member of Aathi Thamizhar Peravai. He then posted the video online social media to ensure that such treatment is not meted out to any student.

School Education Minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi posted a message on 'X' saying that any oppression against children is unacceptable. He said the child is not alone and the government would stand with her.

DIVINE GLIMPSE

Devotees throng to the annual Arubathumoovar festival procession at Mylapore Sri Kapaleeswarar Temple in Chennai on Thursday | PJAWAHAR

EXPRESS READ

Cong crucial for reviving INDIA bloc: CPM gen secy

KOCHI: CPM general secretary MA Baby on Thursday stressed the need to revive and strengthen the INDIA bloc, emphasising that the Congress has a crucial role to play in the alliance. "The Congress can play a big role in this regard, and it should be ready for it. The party should at least be willing to return to Nehruvian-era economic policies," Baby said at a 'meet the press' programme organised by the Kollam Press Club. He said the BJP could only be defeated through a united struggle in which the Congress also participates. "Caste and the Hindutva ideology surrounding it have become ingrained in the very cells of society. Through this, the RSS and BJP have spread hatred, enmity, and communalism. This can only be countered through subtle political interventions," he claimed.

Ramadoss demotes son, takes over PMK reins

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Chennai / Villupuram

IN a dramatic turn of events for the Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK), its founder **Dr S Ramadoss** on Thursday announced to the media at his house in Villupuram that he would take over the post of party president from his son and former Union minister Dr Anbumani Ramadoss with immediate effect.

He said Dr Anbumani will serve as working president and will continue to play a key role in PMK's activities, especially as the party prepares for the 2026 polls. When asked about the reasons for the decision that has shocked party cadres, Dr Ramadoss declined to elaborate and merely said, "many reasons".

The timing is even more stark as Union Home Minister Amit Shah will reach Chennai on Thursday night, and is expected to meet leaders of alliance partners on Friday.

PMK, which continues to be part of NDA, fought the 2024 Lok Sabha election alongside the BJP though AIADMK quit the bloc in September 2023. It was rumoured at that time that Dr Ramadoss was not fully in favour of BJP alliance. On Thursday, the 85-year-old leader said decisions on future alliances will be taken after consultation with the party's leadership council. "I am taking up the role of party president with full commitment. This decision is aimed at guiding the younger generation and ensuring the party's victory," he said.

While Dr Anbumani did not react, sources close to him said the move was not valid, since such decisions cannot be taken without convening the party's general council.

Hatchlings of olive ridley turtle

Olive ridley turtle hatchlings released into Byndoor sea

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Udupi

IN a major conservation effort, olive ridley turtle hatchlings were released into the sea in Byndoor for the first time, this year. Though olive ridley hatchlings were released into the sea in the neighboring Kundapur taluk, after protecting the eggs from dogs and other predators at their nesting sites in previous years, more than 300 hatchlings were released into the sea from the sandy shores of Byndoor last month.

As per data from forest officials, 121 hatchlings were released in Maravanthe and 199 of them in Alive Kodi-Tharapathi in Byndoor taluk. The hatchlings were released in March this year. K Ganapathy, DCF of Kundapur, said the department has launched several initiatives to support turtle conservation along the 98-km beach stretch under the Kundapur division. These efforts actively involve fishermen, NGOs, ReefWatch Marine Conservation-Kundapur, NSS volunteers, and locals.

GST SHADOW LOOMS OVER APARTMENT COMPLEXES

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

WITH apartments now the default mode of urban living, the government is tapping housing societies to impose 18 per cent GST on monthly maintenance. Experts estimate that around 50 lakh people live in apartments in Bengaluru, and at least another 40 lakh across cities like Mysuru, Mangaluru, Hubballi and Belagavi; and these are only the numbers for Karnataka.

The GST catch in the 2025-26 Union Budget is the revised regulations for housing societies: If monthly maintenance for an apartment is Rs 7,500 or more, or if the society's total annual collection exceeds Rs 20 lakh, then GST kicks in. Even if the society collects Rs 20 lakh in a financial year for occasional expenses like painting or replacing the lift, it comes under the GST bracket.

Little wonder that apartment dwellers are pushing panic buttons, having WhatsApp debates and holding meetings on whether they should register under GST. Once registered, it would mean two monthly returns -- on the 11th and 20th of the month -- and annual return.

There is also growing confusion over GST rates. Many assume it's 5 per cent, but in reality, it's 18 per cent, which means every apartment complex which touches Rs 20 lakh has to pay Rs 3.6 lakh GST annually, which adds up to Rs 36 lakh in 10 years. Add to it the compliance burden, which means Rs 1-2 lakh for the auditor to help file returns and other statutory compliances, an expert said.

Chartered accountant Sanjay Dhariwal broke it down. "Apartment associations can claim input tax credit. But the moment you register, you must stay compliant, every single month. And even if your association isn't registered with the Cooperative department, GST applies if you meet the criteria," he said.

Those unsure if their apartment falls under GST can visit the local Commercial Tax office, pay Rs 500, and get an official letter confirming their status. With GST compliance no longer optional, apartment associations will have to get their financial books in order, or get trapped in red tape and penalties.

Expression of Interest (EOI)

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM TECHNOPARK HARMONY@WORK — Kerala IT EMPOWERING THE FUTURE

EOI No. 224/2025

Expression of Interest are invited for **"Construction & Operation of an IT Building (Pre-Fab) in Technopark Phase 1 Campus for Managed Office Space and Co-Working Space"**.

The last date of submission of EOI is 14.05.2025.

For further details, please visit **https://www.technopark.org/tenders**

Date 09.04.2025 Chief Executive Officer
Trivandrum D3/313/2025 Technopark

Your Guide to Spicy Living INDULGE Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

WESTERN RAILWAY - BHAVNAGAR DIVISION

DEVELOPMENT OF CLOUD BASED DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

E-Tender No : BVP-EL-P-13-2024-25 **Name of Work :** Bhavnagar Division - Development of cloud based data management system for integration of electrical assets with IR NIYANTRAC. **Tender Value (Rs.) :** ₹49903748.00 **EMD :** ₹399500.00 **Date of Bidding Start Date :** 18/04/2025 **Date of Bidding Closing :** 02/05/2025 The NIT will be uploaded on Rly. Web site www.ireps.gov.in on 09/042025. 006

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TAMIL NADU MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Tamilnadu Undertaking)
No. 417, Pantheon Road, Egmore, Chennai-600 008. Phone: 044-2819 1890, 2819 0259
E-Mail : gmdrug.tnmsc@tn.gov.in, mngrpurdrug.tnmsc@tn.gov.in Website : www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in

Online Tender is invited by the Tender Inviting Authority, Tamilnadu Medical Services Corporation Ltd., Chennai – 600008, from Licensed **IV Fluids** Manufacturers having three years Market Standing and holding Good Manufacturing Practice Certificate (as per revised Schedule-"M") issued by the Drug Control Authority. Direct Importers holding a valid Import License and experienced in the field for a minimum period of three years and Loan Licensees having valid Loan License or Authorized Stockiest/Dealers holding valid manufacturer's authorization letter are also eligible to participate in this tender.

Sl. No.	Description	e-Tender Reference	Tender Floating Period	e-Tender Submission Duration	Date and time of online opening of Technical Bids
1	Online Tender for the supply of **IV Fluids** to TNMSC Limited under rate contract system for one year from the date of acceptances	e-006/M(P)/ IV FLUIDS/ TNMSC/2025, Dated. 11.04.2025	11.04.2025 at 3.00 PM to 21.04.2025 upto 3.00 PM	12.04.2025 at 10.00 AM to 21.04.2025 upto 3.00 PM	21.04.2025 at 4.00 PM

The tender document can be downloaded and the tender shall be submitted at **https://tntenders.gov.in/.** The tender document can also be downloaded at **www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in** for reference purpose.

Tender Inviting Authority / General Manager (Drugs)

DIPR / 1474 / TENDER / 2025

ଓଡ଼ିଶା ବିଦ୍ୟୁତ୍ ଶକ୍ତି ସଂଚାରଣ ନିଗମ ଲିଃ
(ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାରଙ୍କ ଏକ ଉପକ୍ରମ)
ODISHA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Odisha Undertaking)
Lifeline of Odisha
Regd. Office: OPTCL Tech Tower, Janpath, Saheed Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007

CAD-88 **NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Bids Are Invited Under Single Stage Two Part System From Bidder :

Sl. No.	Tender Notice No:	Tender Description:
1	CPC-37/2024-25	Engineering, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of additional 2nd Bay(220kV) at Paradeep Grid S/S & Stringing of balance 2nd Circuit of 220kV line of 150MVA to IOCL premises at Paradeep.
2	CPC-26/2024-25	Procurement of Capacitive Voltage Transformers & Potential Transformers.

Complete set of bidding documents are available at **www.optcl.co.in.** OIPR-04011/11/0135/2425 HIPR-03/2025-26

/optcl.odisha /optcl_odisha

Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS EQUITAS FINANCE LTD)
Registered Office : No.769, Spencer Plaza, 4th Floor, Phase-II, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600002.

DEMAND NOTICE - NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

NOTICE is hereby given that the following borrower/s have availed loan from **Equitas Housing Finance Limited (EHFL) / Equitas Finance Limited (EFL) / Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd (ESFB)**. The said borrower/s had/have failed to pay Installments and their loan account has been classified as **Non-Performing Asset** as per the guidelines issued by RBI. The details of the secured immovable propert/ties, loan and the amounts outstanding as on date payable by the borrower/s are mentioned below. The borrower(s) and the public in general are informed that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer, the secured creditor has initiated action against the following borrower(s) under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 and not to deal with the said property. on failure to repay the outstanding dues indicated against their names **within 60 (Sixty) days of this notice,** the undersigned will exercise any one or more of the powers under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, including power to take possession of the property/ies and sell the same

SR NO	Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)(NAME OF THE BRANCH)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)
1.	**BRANCH - CHANNAPATNA Loan No - 700009505187 BORROWER - MR. KALANKEGOWDA Co-Borrower - MRS. D. V. POORNIMA**	**17-03-2025 & 5,09,599**	All the piece and parcel of the immoveable schedule property No 152900103300900203 Katha No 202/14, situated at Nelamakanahalli village, Elethotadahalli Gramapanchayath, Channapatana Taluk, Ramanagara. Measuring east to west 9.144 mtr(30 feet) north to south 12.192 mtr(40 feet) Total extent 111.48 sqmtr(1200 Sq feet) and House builtup area of 89.42 Sqmtr do exists. North by: Road, South by: House of Jagadamba, East by: Site of Kantharaje Urs, West by: House of Nagarajamma. Measurement : Measuring east to west 9.144 mtr(30 feet) north to south 12.192 mtr(40 feet) Total extent 111.48 sqmtr(1200 Sq feet) and House builtup area of 89.42 Sqmtr do exists. Situated within the Sub-Registration District of Channapatana and Registration District of Ramanagar.

Date - 11.04.2025, Place - Ramanagar **Authorized officer, Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd**

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore- 560068

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.
Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Sri Ramanatha Traders, Muniyellappa Manjunath & Muniyellappa Ramesh/ Represented by Partners Muniyellappa Manjunath, Muniyellappa Ramesh No 5 5th Main Road Apmc Yard Mahalakshmi Layout Yeshwanthpura Bangalore- 560022/ 439805000295	(As Described In The Loan Document/ Property Document Covering All The Piece And Parcel Of Property Bearing New No.41, Old No.5, Situated At 5th Cross, RMC Yard, Bangalore, Now Comes Under The Limits Of The BBMP, Bangalore, Mahalakshmipuram, Pid No. 10-13-41, Measuring East To West 11.375 Feet And Both To South 70 Feet And Bounded On The (Admeasuring An Area Of Total Land Area 796 Sq Ft , Total Built Up Area 1012 Sq Ft Bounded By : On The North By: Road On The South By: World Bank Shop And Godown On The East By: Shop/ Godown No.4 On The West By: Shop/ Godown No.6. Date Of Physical Possession 08th April 2025.	June 11,2024 Rs. 1,02,92,315.00/-	Bangalore

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: April 11, 2025
Place: Bangalore

Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SAMBALPUR
Tel-0663-2548268, E-mail id-serwcirclessbp@yahoo.com

e-Procurement No. 1146/ Dated:08/04/2025

O-40: The Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle Sambalpur on behalf of Odisha State Rural Road Agency (OSRRA) invites the percentage rate bids, in electronic tendering system, for Repair / Maintenance of the Rural roads constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana for each of the following works from the eligible and approved contractors registered with State PWD / CPWD / MES / Railways. (The registered bidders of outside Odisha may submit bids; however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities of State Govt. before signing the contract.)

1	Name of work.	:	Periodical maintenance of 5 year completed PMGSY Road under Incentive Grant for the year 2024-25
2	Class of Contractor.	:	As mentioned in Annexure
3	No of packages.	:	04 Nos of Package
4	Estimated cost	:	Approximately varies from Rs.73.14 lakhs to Rs.225.80 lakhs (Information in DTCN will be Final)
5	Bid submission fee.	:	Rs.10,000/-(Non-Refundable) per set of package
6	Mode of submission of tender	:	Only through online in website. www.pmgsytenders.gov.in.
7	Summary of key dates are provided below:		

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Last date & time for seeking clarification	Last Date and time of submission of Original documents	Date & Time of opening of tender	
		From	To			Technical Bid	Financial Bid
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural, Works Circle, Sambalpur	PMGSY-Online-RWCSBP-01/2025-26	15.04.2025 From 11.00. A. M.	29.04.2025 Up to 05.00 P.M.	28.04.2025 Up to 5.00 P.M.	02.05.2025 By 5.00 PM	30.04.2025 At 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

*Special conditions 1-EPF registration is mandatory before drawl of agreement., 2- Rate quoted by the contractor shall be excluding GST.3.EMD, Bid submission fee and original affidavits should be submitted at the O/o Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur Or O/o Executive Engineer/Superintending Engineer of Concern Rural Works Division. *Details can be seen from the e-procurement portal www.pmgsytenders.gov.in, * Subsequent modification/corrigendum/ Addendum if required shall be appeared in the website only.

OIPR-25091/11/0052/2425

Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur

STATE SELECTION BOARD
Higher Education Department,
Unit-II, Ashok Nagar, Bhubaneswar-9
Web-site: - www.ssbodisha.ac.in/ E-mail: -ssbdeptofhe@gmail.com

NOTICE

No.SSB(EX)32/2025 600/SSB Dated 09.04.2025

N-06: It is for information of all concerned that, the Common PG Entrance Test (CPET)-2025 is scheduled to held from 05.05.2025(Monday) to 13.05 .2025(Tuesday) in different subjects as per the following schedule.

Common P.G. Entrance Test-2025 (Examination Schedule)			
Date	1st Sitting 09.00 A.M - 10.20 A.M (10.50 A.M. for PwD candidates)	2nd Sitting 11.30A.M. - 12.50 P.M (1.20 P.M. for PwD candidates)	3rd Sitting 3.00 P.M - 4.20 P.M (4.50 P.M.for PwD candidates)
	Subjects	Subjects	Subjects
5-May-25 Monday	Commerce, Economics, Electronic Science	Environmental Science Education	Physics Microbiology
6-May-25 Tuesday	English, Geology, Wildlife & Biodiversity, Conservation	Psychology	Zoology History
7-May-25 Wednesday	Odia Atmospheric Science Marine Science-Marine Biology	Public Health Marine Science- Oceanography Women Studies	Philosophy
8-May-25 Thursday	Home Science	Food Science & Nutrition Linguistics	Rural Development
9-May-25 Friday	Public Administration	Computer Science	Political Science
10-May-25 Saturday	Chemistry	Biotechnology	Library &Information Science
11-May-25 Sunday	Mathematics Botany	Journalism and Mass Communication	Tourism and Travel Studies Urdu, Santali , Sanskrit
12-May-25 Monday	PMIR /IRPM	Social Work	Yoga & Naturopathy
13-May-25 Tuesday	Anthropology (Arts), Anthropology (Science), Statistics	Geography, Hindi, Sociology, Law	Business Administration Population Studies

1. State Selection Board, Odisha reserves every right to change the dates without mentioning any reasons thereof. Any change in the dates will be published in the newspapers as well as in the official website of State Selection Board, Odisha: **www.ssbodisha.ac.in**
2. Candidates can download their Hall Tickets (Admit Cards) from the official website of State Selection Board w.e.f. 28.04.2025 (11.00 A.M. onwards) by entering their **Roll No. and Date** of Birth.

OIPR- 11015/11/0019/2425 **Sd/- Secretary**

EDITORIAL

"One thing I really like about teaching is that you have to work very hard not to lose the respect of your students" — Tania Bruguera

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

MODI VISIT DRAWS COLOMBO CLOSER TO NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Sri Lanka reinforced strategic trust, fostered synergies and set the stage for tackling unresolved issues between the two nations. Three months after the new Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake picked India as his first port of call, Modi became the first foreign head of government hosted by the new government in Colombo, with the visit culminating in the signing of an umbrella defence pact—the first of its kind between the two. These visits helped address the longstanding scepticism that Dissanayake's Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna party had towards New Delhi and underscored the ruling National People's Power alliance's recognition of India as a vital strategic partner.

Dissanayake reassured Modi that Sri Lanka would not allow its territory to be used in ways that could threaten India's security or regional stability, while Modi emphasised that the security of both countries is "interconnected and co-dependent". This was an important reiteration. Small nations surrounded by larger powers often hedge their positions. Sri Lanka's balancing act between India and China remains an important concern for India, as Colombo is playing an increasingly significant role in Beijing's strategic calculations in the Indian Ocean.

The visit revived discussions to find a long-term solution on the issue of Indian fishermen straying into Sri Lankan waters; both sides agreed on the need for a flexible and humane approach to prevent escalation. The visit also gave Tamil parties the chance to reiterate the importance of the 1987 Indo-Lanka accord, emphasising India's role in facilitating a political settlement for the Tamil population. Modi expressed hope that the Sri Lankan government would meet Tamil aspirations and fulfil its constitutional commitments, including conducting provincial elections.

India must act as a benevolent facilitator promoting dialogue and development, particularly in Sri Lanka's war-affected northern and eastern provinces, without alienating the government or the majority population. Modi's visit reinforced India's role as a key regional partner capable of addressing sensitive issues with a balanced, pragmatic approach. Follow-up actions from officials on both sides must ensure this commitment is upheld.

IMBALANCE IN EDUCATION INFRA NEEDS CORRECTION

KARNATAKA'S Pre-University Certificate-2 (PUC) results—the equivalent of 12th standard boards—have revealed stark disparities in access to quality education offered to students on the threshold of their adult lives. While Udupi and Dakshina Kannada topped in pass shares with 93.90 percent and 93.57 percent, districts in the underdeveloped Kalyana Karnataka (erstwhile Hyderabad-Karnataka) region suffered badly, with Raichur recording 58.75 percent, Kalaburagi 55.70 percent, and Yadgir at the bottom of the table with 48.45 percent.

The poor showing in this region is directly linked to its poor infrastructure and lack of adequate educational facilities, casting a telling blow on performance. Deputy directors of education in Yadgir, Kalaburagi and Raichur have attributed the poor showing to more than half the teaching posts in the region lying vacant, while guest lecturers, appointed after a delay of four months, were taking just 12 classes per week against 20 by the regular ones; some were working in more than two colleges at a time. Of the 23 PU colleges in Yadgir, only two have permanent principals; the rest are managed by those in ad hoc roles. There is also a severe shortage of teachers for English, physics, chemistry, mathematics and biology. Compounding the situation, a shortage of state buses makes it difficult for students in rural areas to be regular in attending classes; no such problem is faced in the better-performing regions of the state.

There was a drop of 7.70 percentage points in the overall PUC-2 pass percentage in the state to 73.45 percent. Minister for Primary Education and Literacy Madhu Bangarappa attributed this to stricter monitoring and real-time surveillance that led to a more realistic evaluation. But that does not absolve the state government of its apathy towards the glaring regional imbalance in infrastructure and ease of access to education. Urgent correctional measures need to be taken to make good educational infrastructure equally available across the state. The Karnataka government needs to wake up to the fact that they are dealing with a large cohort of youngsters at a crucial juncture in life when big dreams loom large. And that education and health are the two crucial limbs used in marching towards such dreams.

QUICK TAKE

TECH'S HUNGER FOR WATER

THE world has a new thirst to quench with its increasingly scarce water resources—data centres. A new report shows how Big Tech is building data centres, which need huge amounts to cool their servers, in several water-scarce parts of the world as the demand for storage surges. In such a scenario, India needs to sharply increase its wastewater treatment and desalination capacities. India's total installed capacity to treat wastewater is less than half the daily sewage generated. Seawater desalination— for which CSIR's Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute has an innovative solution—is taking off in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra. Now is the time to ramp up.

Drug addiction is as much a social and psychological issue as a medical one. Success in tackling it will require a united front from government, families and community leaders

KERALA'S DRUG CRISIS: A CALL FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION

SHASHI THAROOR

Fourth-term Lok Sabha MP from Thiruvananthapuram and Sahitya Akademi-winning author of 24 books, most recently *Ambedkar: A Life*

KERALA, often celebrated as a beacon of education, health, and social progress, and lauded for its social advancement and high literacy rates, now finds itself grappling with a crisis that threatens to unravel its achievements—a spiralling drug epidemic. From urban centres to tranquil villages, substance abuse has infiltrated every corner of the state, leaving shattered lives, fractured families, and disillusioned communities in its wake. Reports of rising substance abuse and escalating drug-related crime have sent shockwaves across the state. It is time to confront this crisis head-on, with a cohesive and decisive strategy that marries compassion with enforcement.

Recent reports paint a grim picture. Kerala recorded 27,701 cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act in 2024, which is more than three times Punjab's 9,025, whereas Punjab is traditionally considered India's drug epicentre. Kerala has the highest rate of drug-related cases in India, with 78 cases per lakh people in 2024, compared to Punjab's 30. Over the past four years, Kerala registered 87,101 drug-related cases, marking a 130 percent increase over the previous four years. Every district is affected. And 30 murders in the first two months of this year were linked to substance abuse—that's half of all the murders in the state.

Substance abuse is no longer confined to marginalised sections of society—it has penetrated schools, colleges, and workplaces, jeopardising the state's future. Synthetic drugs and psychotropic substances have flooded Kerala's markets, while drug cartels exploit its coastal geography as a convenient gateway for trafficking. Alarmingly, data indicates a sharp rise in cases involving minors and first-time users, underscoring the gravity of the situation. In just one week this year, between February 22 and March 1, the special task force made 2,762 drug busts, arresting 2,854 suspects.

The consequences are harrowing: from health complications and crime surges to social stigma and mental health struggles. Yet, the current approach—a patchwork of sporadic raids, token rehabilitation initiatives, and awareness campaigns—is woefully inadequate. Kerala is at risk of losing the battle against drugs unless it adopts a cohesive and inclusive strategy to combat this menace. Tackling the crisis demands more than just acknowledgment; it requires bold and transformational action.

The path forward must rest on four pillars: prevention, enforcement, rehabilitation, and community involvement.

Awareness is Kerala's first line of defence. I have earlier called upon religious and community leaders to unite to raise consciousness of the dangers of drugs. We could now convene an all-community summit of leaders against drugs.

SOURAV ROY

Abuse must be tackled at its roots, beginning with schools and colleges. Comprehensive substance-abuse education should be woven into the curriculum, equipping young people with the resilience to resist peer pressure and make informed decisions to avoid addiction. Digital campaigns targeting young audiences can amplify these efforts, steering them away from addiction's dark allure. Awareness campaigns on social media could target Kerala's tech-savvy youth.

Kerala's long coastline, guarded by just one Coast Guard ship, makes it vulnerable to trafficking. The Coast Guard and police need more resources. The state's law enforcement agencies must adopt a zero-tolerance policy towards trafficking, focusing on synthetic drugs like LSD, MDMA, meth and fentanyl, which are far more dangerous than cannabis. Surveillance must be intensified, while inter-agency coordination is essential to dismantling trafficking networks. Kerala's police must embrace technology, using AI-driven surveillance and real-time monitoring. Certainty of punishment and swiftness of court procedures have a greater deterrent effect than the quantum of punishment.

Drug addiction is as much a social and psychological issue as it is a medical one. Kerala must invest in state-of-the-art rehabilitation centres with a focus on holistic recovery—addressing physical, emotional, and vocational needs. Rehabilitation should transcend mere detoxification; it must address the emotional, psychological, and social dimensions of recovery. Free de-addiction centres have been created and should be established in every district.

Modern treatment facilities, staffed with trained professionals, are essential. Partnerships with NGOs and medical professionals could expand access to treatment. Corporates could support NGOs working to provide such services, reducing drug-related deaths and helping reintegrate addicts into society. Sending lower-level drug users to community service for a month or two could help. Vocational training and skill development programmes can offer addicts a pathway to reintegration and dignity.

Kerala's hallmark has always been its cohesive social fabric. Its vibrant civil society must now be woven into the fight against drugs. Local leaders, religious organisations, neighbourhood residents' associations, and grassroots movements should spearhead campaigns to identify and assist addicts early, while fostering an environment of acceptance rather than stigmatisation. Families, as the bedrock of support systems, should be equipped to detect warning signs and guide loved ones toward recovery. Success will require a united front—from government agencies to families and citizens.

Countries across the globe have faced similar challenges. Kerala could adapt best practices from elsewhere to suit its unique socio-cultural context. We must invest heavily in treatment, harm reduction, and public awareness and revise our laws to ensure stringent punishment for traffickers, including huge fines for pushers. Educational institutions must play their part by offering counselling, conducting awareness and support sessions, doing random testing, and cracking down on drug networks near their campuses.

The drug epidemic is a societal crisis that undermines the values Kerala holds dear—education, progress, and community. Delayed action risks irreversible damage: a generation lost to addiction and a society burdened by its aftermath. Tackling this crisis is not merely a matter of governance; it is a moral imperative. It is time to rise above complacency, embrace innovative strategies, and tackle this challenge with the urgency it demands.

While Kerala bears the immediate brunt of the crisis, India as a nation must rally behind its southernmost state. Central government support—in funding, resources and expertise—can bolster Kerala's efforts. Kerala has always been a trailblazer in social reform. It now has the opportunity to lead India in demonstrating how to effectively combat substance abuse. A broader national policy on drug abuse, informed by Kerala's experiences, could set a precedent for tackling similar crises across other states.

By embracing bold solutions and taking decisive action prioritising the well-being of its people, Kerala can reclaim its standing as a model state—and transform its darkest hour into a beacon of hope—for itself, and for India.

(Views are personal)

(office@tharoor.in)

THE ART OF THE POSSIBLE

SHIKHA MUKERJEE

Senior journalist based in Kolkata

THE opposition in West Bengal is perfectly justified in demanding Mamata Banerjee's resignation for heading a corrupt administration. It is indeed a major hazard in politics, where voters may decide that any alternative is better than a corrupt regime that fleeces the vulnerable and then fails to provide a cover for its misdemeanours.

By taking responsibility for her men—ministers, bureaucrats and middlemen who took cash and promised tenured jobs to over 25,000 young people who had applied for a teaching career in state-run and aided schools—and promising that she would find a solution that does not take away the jobs, as ordered by the Supreme Court, Banerjee has played the opposition in a counter-move that's quintessentially a classic art of the possible manoeuvre.

Ever since Banerjee declared that a settlement would be found, the opposition finds itself excluded from the dialogue between the state government and sacked teachers. The settlement must happen sooner rather than later for two simple reasons: the school calendar cannot be stopped and the schools need teachers and non-teaching staff to remain open.

The 'tainted' and 'manipulated' recruitment—descriptions used by the Supreme Court—created two categories of teachers. The 'qualified', or the majority recruited on merit, and the rest recruited through the racket. Whenever a temporary arrangement and the permanent solution happen, it will be a negotiation between Banerjee and the aggrieved teachers, who appear ready to clutch at any straws on offer, because the stakes for them are very high.

Compelled by circumstances to recognise that less than best is better than nothing, the qualified teachers have opted to trust Banerjee to find a solution. The fundamentals are brutal—of the 23 lakh candidates that sat for the recruitment exam in 2016, 25,753 were recruited, of which the Supreme Court order affects 25,327. According to Bikash Bhattacharya, the lawyer and Rajya Sabha member from the CPI(M) who initiated the litigation. 8,324 of the latter lot of teachers are 'unqualified' for different reasons.

The recruitment racket reveals the nature of political government, where the boundaries between politics and government are blurred. It is also an instance where a political fight alleging corruption does not yield the expected outcomes. The case also needs to be dissected to figure out why the opposition, riding the moral high horse, faces tougher odds than Banerjee, who acknowledges wrongdoing and then goes about setting things right. Her solutions may be unpalatable to the opposition and the voters who disapprove, but not to those who have handed power to her in three consecutive elections.

ANI

The teachers in West Bengal sacked by a Supreme Court order after a cash-for-jobs racket came to light are still reposing faith in Mamata Banerjee. That may be because Banerjee has manoeuvred the opposition out of the narrative by championing their cause

The reason Banerjee's assurances seem plausible is that she has a track record. In the R G Kar Medical College and Hospital rape-and-murder case, the protesting junior doctors were not victimised by the state government. She sacked and transferred the health department's bosses, as the protesting doctors had demanded. In the present case, she has maintained that she would not sack the recruited teachers, which is why the state government appealed against the Calcutta High Court order of 2023 and went to the Supreme Court. She has now gone back to the Supreme Court to buy time.

Therefore, when Banerjee stepped in after the top court order sacking the 25,753 teachers, she appropriated for herself the role of their champion. Split as the sacked teachers are over the 'qualified' and 'unqualified' being lumped together, the fact that Banerjee has assured them that no jobs will be terminated and there will be "no break in service" is the reprieve the qualified wanted.

From the prime minister to Suvendu Adhikari, the BJP leader of the opposition in West Bengal, the cash-for-jobs racket became a core issue in the 2021 state assembly election campaign. The subsequent litigation yielded high-visibility pay dirt. The high court-ordered CBI investigation led to a flood of leaks of shocking visuals of raids and recovery of property, jewellery and stashes of cash. Banerjee's erstwhile confidante Partha Chatterjee, the former state cabinet minister currently in CBI custody, was allegedly involved.

By 2024, the charges of racketeering by Banerjee's trusted lieutenants had ballooned to include cattle and coal smuggling rackets, followed by the revelations of a nexus between politics and crime in Sandeshkhali.

The teachers' recruitment racket and Banerjee stepping in to take control of the narrative is a game of hazards that both sides are playing—the difference may be that she seems better at the art of the possible than the righteous opposition. Despite all the allegations, the opposition's expectations in West Bengal have been consistently contradicted by Banerjee's durability, despite her drawbacks. The reason is perhaps the unstated understanding between the electorate and Banerjee that what she has to offer may be less than the best, but she can be trusted to deliver on what she promises.

(Views are personal)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Oil bonanza

Ref: *Fall in crude prices must benefit customers* (Apr 10). The editorial is prudent and timely. We cannot explain the hardships of the average man. Crude prices have been lower at points over the last decade. The government claiming so much money at such a time, rather than passing it on, is like a loot.
A Sreeramarao, Visakhapatnam

Rethinking medicine

Ref: *When violence is built into logic of policy* (Apr 10). Shiv Visvanathan described well how social science is failing humanity. Ivan Illich's claim that about 40% of modern medicine is iatrogenic is illuminating. Time to rethink the drugs we are using for lifestyle disorders.
Shareef Hafeez, email

Eastern links

Ref: *The Bay at the heart of Indo-Pacific strategy* (Apr 10). Look East, the policy conceived over two decades ago, needs a stronger push today. Quad and BIMSTEC are appropriate forums for it. That most of these countries have Indian cultural imprints should prompt our policies to be more engaging.
Prahlad Chebbi, Dharwad

Market probe

Ref: *90-day pause on tariff war* (Apr 10). There seems to be a sinister design in Trump's vacillation on tariffs. When the 90-day pause came out as a rumour a few days ago, it dramatically affected the markets. This smells strongly of insider trading and the US market watchdog should investigate the matter.
Srinivas Kamat, Mysuru

Carpe diem

Ref: *Central bank cuts rate for 2nd time to fuel growth* (Apr 10). It is heartening to note RBI's policy continuity in cutting repo rates to spur growth. When the tariff hikes are paused by the US and interest rates are softer at home, India should strike trade pacts with the US and EU. This should encourage private investment, which has been sluggish for quite some time.
R Kumar, email

Admitting corruption

Ref: *Corruption rampant in state govt, says Siddu aide* (Apr 10). It is shocking that CM Siddaramaiah's economic advisor Basavaraj Rayareddi himself has admitted a high level of corruption in Karnataka. Though it is an open secret, the ruling party leaders are patting their backs claiming that the state is well administered with little corruption.
S Ravindranath, Bengaluru

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Piyush Goyal @PiyushGoyal
Growing insurance coverage constitutes a major aspect of a rising economy... facilitating health, life & personal accident insurance for over 1.3 crore lives in FY 2024-25

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra @priyankagandhi
Wayanad landslide victims have lost everything... Yet, the govt refuses to offer even a loan waiver. Instead, they get mere loan rescheduling and restructuring. This is betrayal

D Raja @ComradeDRaja
Following BJP's defeat in local body polls in Sukma, C'garh, and expose of corruption by Comrade Manish, BJP is retaliating through politically motivated raids.

NIA CHIEF WHO TOOK ON KASAB WILL GRILL RANA

12-MEMBER CRACK TEAM FORMED TO CONFRONT 26/11 MASTERMIND WITH CRUCIAL EVIDENCE LINKED TO ATTACKS

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

AFTER getting custody of Tahawwur Rana, the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack mastermind, a high-level team of 12 NIA personnel, including two Inspector Generals, one Deputy Inspector General and one Superintendent of Police besides NIA chief himself, will grill the extradited accused. Sources said, Rana would be confronted with crucial evidence linked to the attacks, including recorded voice samples, photos, videos, and emails, which were gathered during the probe into the case.

Here, attention turns to Sadanand Date, Director General of the NIA, who will lead the Rana interrogation. A 1990-batch IPS officer from Maharashtra cadre, Date was injured during the 2008 Mumbai attacks as one of the first responders to confront terrorists Ajmal Kasab and Ismail. Years later, his leadership at the NIA was crucial in securing US approval for Rana's extradition.

A source said, "Only 12 members involved in the investigation will have access to the cell in which Rana will be lodged; they include NIA Director General (DG) Sadanand Date, IG Ashish Batra, DIG Jaya Roy, among others." If anyone other than these officials require to visit Rana, they would need prior permission, he added. During questioning Rana will be shown crucial evidence linked to the terror attacks, including recorded voice samples, photos, videos, and emails, which were gathered from the investigation. These pieces of evidence are expected to play a critical role in uncovering further details in the case including Rana's involvement with Pakistani-American terrorist David Coleman Headley, and his links to Pakistan army and the Inter-Services Intelligence, they added.

Rana will also be pressed for details about his interactions with 'terror manager' Sajid Mir, Pakistan-based terrorist, who was reportedly in India at the time of the attacks. NIA sleuths are going to focus on Rana's extensive communication with Headley, further solidifying the links between the terror network and Pakistan.

ROGUE GALLERY

1. NIA chargesheet mentions 19 actors responsible for the 26/11 attacks – 10 executors and nine conspirators
2. Of the 10 executors involved, nine neutralised on same night
3. Ajmal Kasab was captured alive, executed after trial on November 21, 2012
4. Tahawwur Rana, Pak-origin Canadian citizen; an ex-Pakistan Army doctor with ties with ISI, is the first catch to face trial
5. David Coleman Headley, Pak-US terrorist, lodged in US prison at present
6. Seven other conspirators still roam free, holed in safe houses based in Pakistan

26/11

NON-STATE ACTORS

Hafiz Saeed Pak-born Islamic preacher and co-founder of Lashkar-e-Taiba, a designated terror outfit; mastermind of 2001 attacks in Parliament

Zaki ur Rehman Lakhvi One of the principal conspirators of the Mumbai terror attacks; Pakistan-based terrorist and LeT co-founder

Sajid Mir Chief planner of the 26/11 attacks; Pakistan national and LeT member

STATE ACTORS (PAK AGENTS)

Major Iqbal Serving ISI officer who directed and funded months of reconnaissance in Mumbai by David Coleman Headley

Major Samir Ali Serving ISI officer who visited the Karachi control room of the 26/11 attacks

Abdur Rehman Pasha A retired major of Pakistan Army accused as conspirator in terror attack

Illyas Kashmiri Islamic preacher-turned-Mujahid and al-Qaida leader accused of attacks on Indian forces in Kashmir

TIMELINE

- **June 2008**: David Coleman Headley meets LeT operatives Sajid Majid, Abu Qahafa, Zaki ur Rehman Lakhvi, and Abu Anes in Muzaffarabad, and ISI agent Major Iqbal in Lahore
- **July 2008**: Headley leaves Lahore for Dubai before arriving to Mumbai on his 8th visit to India; rents Mumbai office space anticipating Rana's arrival
- **Nov 13-21, 2008**: Rana, his wife Samraz Rana Akhtar, visit multiple cities: Delhi, Agra, Kochi, Ahmedabad, and Mumbai. Rana stays at a hotel in Mumbai days before 26/11
- **Nov 26, 2008**: 10 terrorists sneak into Mumbai via Arabian Sea and execute coordinated attacks. 166 lives lost. On the intervening night of Nov 26-27, Ajmal Kasab, the lone surviving terrorist, was arrested
- **Oct 27, 2009**: Rana arrested by FBI in the US
- **Oct 2009**: Headley arrested in the US while attempting to flee
- **Nov 11, 2009**: NIA registers case against Headley, Rana and others in Delhi
- **January 9, 2011**: Rana convicted; sentenced to 14 years in prison for conspiracy, material support to LeT terror plot
- **Dec 24, 2011**: NIA files chargesheet in special court; issues Rana's extradition request to US
- **Feb 27, 2025**: Rana submits 'Emergency Application For Stay Pending Litigation of Petition For Writ of Habeas Corpus' at the US Supreme Court. Appeal denied in March. Rana then renews his application
- **April 7, 2025**: US SC denies Rana's review plea
- **April 10, 2025**: Rana extradited from US

Pakistan backs off, says Rana Canadian national

SHEKHAR SINGH @ New Delhi

JUST hours before Tahawwur Rana, a Canadian national of Pakistani origin accused in the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, landed in the national capital on Thursday, Pakistan's Foreign Office issued a video statement distancing itself from him.

It claimed that Rana had not renewed any Pakistani documentation in the last two decades and that his Canadian nationality was "very clear", a remark widely seen as a deliberate disassociation ahead of potentially explosive disclosures.

Sources in intelligence believe Rana holds vital information on Pakistan's military-intelligence apparatus and its role in orchestrating the 26/11 attacks. His ties to Pakistan's ISI and the army makes him a potential mine of damning testimony that could expose the deep state's role in the terror attacks. "Pakistan fears that Rana will spill the beans," said a senior counter-terror official, adding, "This sudden disavowal is nothing but strategic panic."

Rana's extradition marks the culmination of a lengthy legal and diplomatic struggle. After years of litigation, the US Supreme Court dealt the final blow to Rana's attempts to evade deportation by rejecting his plea for a stay.

Rana was flown into Delhi amid heavy security from the US. His arrival at Delhi's Palam Airport triggered a wave of international reactions, with Israel's Ambassador to India, Reuven Azar, saying. "I would like to thank the Government of India for its persistence in bringing terrorists to justice," Azar said. Israel hailed Rana's extradition as a key milestone in the fight against terror.

Miami to Palam on Gulfstream G550 with Bucharest stopover

SHEKHAR SINGH @ New Delhi

A high-stakes international mission concluded with the arrival of Tahawwur Hussain Rana in India on Thursday evening, as a Gulfstream G550 aircraft carrying the key 26/11 Mumbai terror accused touched down at Delhi's Palam Airport.

As per sources, escorted by elite Indian and American security personnel, Rana was brought in under tight surveillance aboard the ultra-long-range business jet, capping off a coordinated extradition effort years in the making.

The special flight, chartered from a Vienna-based service, departed Miami, Florida at 2:15 a.m local time on Wednesday (11:45 a.m IST) and landed in Bucharest, Romania, by 7:00 p.m the same day. After an 11-hour halt in the Romanian capital, the aircraft resumed its final leg, eventually reaching Indian airspace with the world watching closely.

Inside the jet, Rana, 64, remained under constant watch by NSG commandos, senior officials from the National Investigation Agency (NIA), and a US Sky Marshal. The Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Home Affairs had meticulously coordinated with American counterparts to ensure that the extradition proceeded without disruption.

The Gulfstream G550 – a jet often associated with high-profile diplomatic or executive missions – was chosen specifically for its security features, speed, and ability to undertake intercontinental travel with minimal stops. The use of such an aircraft underscored the and sensitivity of the operation.

Rana has long been wanted in India for his alleged role in facilitating Headley, one of the masterminds in the 26/11 attacks that killed over 160 people in Mumbai. At Palam Airport, the moment Rana stepped off the aircraft, he was surrounded by NIA officials. After all legal formalities, including verification of identity and diplomatic documentation, Rana was formally placed under arrest.

120 Oppn MPs for repeal amendment to RTI Act...

INDIA bloc opposes move

The letter, signed by SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, Supriya Sule of NCP (SP), Priyanka Chaturvedi of Shiv Sena (UBT), and leaders of JMM, RJD, and others, demanded immediate rollback of the amendments as the changes introduced by the DPDP Act significantly weaken the RTI Act and would negatively impact the citizen's fundamental right to information.

We believe that the legal framework for privacy and data protection should complement the RTI Act and in no way undermine or dilute it

Letter addressed to Union minister

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

OVER 120 parliamentarians from various constituents of the INDIA bloc, including Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi, have written a letter to Union Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw seeking the repeal of the amendments made to the Right to Information (RTI) Act through the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023.

"We, the undersigned Members of Parliament, hereby urge you to repeal Section 44(3) of the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023, which amends the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005," states the letter.

"This amendment poses a serious risk of undermining people's ability to access critical information under the RTI Act. Specifically, the amendment to Section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act, as introduced by Section 44(3) of the DPDP Act seeks to exempt all personal information from disclosure," it further reads.

These amendments were introduced indirectly through the new data protection law, which imposes a blanket ban on revealing personal information. This restriction even affects journalists, who cannot publish information in public interest even if they access personal data.

"We believe that the legal framework for privacy and data protection should complement the RTI Act and in no way undermine or dilute it," the letter states, also highlighting contentious aspects of the Act as contradictory to principles of privacy and freedom of expression.

...Vaishnaw says RTI Act protects personal data

Right to privacy

The Supreme Court has held that the Right to Privacy is an integral part of the Right to Life protected as a fundamental right under Article 21 of Constitution, the minister wrote.

DPDP Act 2023 is in harmony with privacy principles as enshrined in the Puttaswamy judgment and the principles of transparency in public life as enacted in the RTI Act

Ashwini Vaishnaw

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

UNION IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has clarified that personal details that are subjected to public disclosure under various laws will continue to be disclosed under the Right to Information (RTI) Act even after the implementation of the new data protection rules.

"Any personal information that is subject to disclosure under legal obligations under various laws governing our public representatives and welfare programmes etc will continue to be disclosed under the RTI Act. In fact, this amendment will not restrict disclosure of personal information, rather it aims to strengthen the privacy rights of individuals and prevent potential misuse of law," Vaishnaw said in a letter to Congress MP Jairam Ramesh.

Vaishnaw's clarification came is in response to a communique from the Congress leader, last month, seeking "to pause, review and repeal" section 44 (3) of the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act 2023. In his letter, dated March 23, he said that section 44 (3) of the DPDP Act prohibits sharing personal information under the RTI Act 2005.

"Any personal information that is subject to disclosure under legal obligations under various laws governing our public representatives and welfare programmes like MGNREGA, etc will continue to be disclosed under the RTI Act," the minister stated refuting the claim of the Congress leader.

Vaishnaw, who also holds the charge of I&B ministry, in his reply cited section 3 of the DPDP Act 2023 to explain the government's stance. According to the section 3 of the DPDP Act, the provisions of the Act will not apply on personal data processed by an individual for any personal or domestic purpose and personal data that is made publicly available by the individual himself or any other person who is under an obligation under any law for the time being in force in India to make such personal data publicly available.

India, Japan to work on strengthening bilateral ties in tourism sector

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

THE fourth Joint Working Group Meeting on Tourism Cooperation between India and Japan held on Tuesday in the Capital saw the exchange of valuable inputs and discussions on new investment opportunities to strengthen cooperation in the tourism sector between the two nations.

The meeting was co-chaired by Director General of Ministry of Tourism Mugdha Sinha and Commissioner of Japan Tourism Agency Haraikawa Naoya. Officials and private stakeholders from both countries were in attendance.

Delegations from both sides discussed the expansion of bilateral tourism through special initiatives aimed at the promotion of Buddhist sites in India, improvement of air connectivity and a rise in Japanese student visits. The officials also explored possibilities of increased private sector involvement and strategies to harness media and influencer engagements for boosting the flow of tourists.

The collaborative spirit and commitment demonstrated by both sides during the meeting is expected to develop a more vibrant tourism ecosystem, contributing significantly to the economic and cultural exchange between India and Japan, officials said. The co-chairs of the two countries exchanged notes on the profile of the visitors and delved into the data insights of the tourists travelling between the two countries, including to Buddhist destinations, in order to undertake suitable policy interventions to make the destinations more attractive for the millennial tourists.

The meeting comes a month after a meeting chaired by Ministry of Tourism Secretary V Vidyavathi with the key travel associations on streamlining e-visa facilities, visa-fee waivers and air connectivity with ASEAN countries in which promotion of Buddhist pilgrimage tourism was discussed.

NHAI put in place rating system for infra assets

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

THE National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has launched a ranking mechanism to rate its infrastructure assets to determine their structural safety and look for remedial measures for their upkeep and regular monitoring.

The new arrangement, the Bridge Inventory and Condition Rating System (BICRS), mandates comprehensive documentation, assessment, and inspection of bridges twice a year. As part of the rating system, the agency aims to prepare a unified repository of all its structures, and each property will be assigned a union assessment identification number.

According to officials, the rating mechanism was developed based on input from its design division to ensure the systematic management and safety of infrastructure assets.

With this exercise, the Authority will record comprehensive structural specifications, geographical coordinates, AS-IS drawings, and other related documentation. AS-IS is documentation of the measurements and elements of an existing building. This data is used in the context of renovation.

One of the key features of BICRS is the provision for systematic evaluation of health based on predetermined rating parameters and identification of structures that require immediate remedial measures, including the imposition of traffic restrictions or suspension of heavy vehicle traffic.

The officials said the rating system was demonstrated during the executive committee meeting held in March, and then they decided to launch it.

A circular issued by the NHAI on the implementation of BICRS states that the engineers will record structural specifications and details of all projects, and the first inspection of structures must be completed before the monsoon.

The project director will cross-check the data prepared by the engineers during their monthly inspections and make observations if discrepancies are found in records and the physical state of structures.

In March last year, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways had outlined detailed guidelines for identification and implementation of real-time health monitoring using sensors for effective maintenance and repair or retrofitting of different categories of bridges under NHAI jurisdiction.

BRIDGE THE GAP

1. Assessment, inspection & documentation of bridge structures twice a year
2. Prepare unified database of all structures, properties by assigning unique id number
3. To ensure systematic management, safety of infrastructure assets

SC says will hear on April 16 batch of pleas over religious conversions

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

A three-judge Supreme Court bench of CJI Sanjiv Khanna and Justices Sanjay Kumar and K V Viswanathan is scheduled to hear on April 16 a batch of petitions regarding religious conversions in the country.

There are two sets of pleas in the matter. While some pleas challenged the anti-conversion laws in several states, others sought relief against forced religious conversions.

The PIL filed by lawyer Ashwini Kumar Upadhyaya in 2022 sought directions to the Union and States to take stringent steps to control fraudulent religious conversion and religious conversion by intimidation, coercion or allure. The top court had earlier sought the legal assistance of Attorney General R Venkataramani on the plea.

'Intended to procure quota benefits'

The Supreme Court, in a judgment last year, held that religious conversion without any actual belief, largely intended to procure quota benefits, defeats the social ethos of the reservation policy and amounts to a fraud on the Constitution. In 2024, the Rajasthan govt told the SC that it was mulling enacting legislation against religious conversion.

In one of the hearings in 2023, the top court described religious conversion as a serious issue that nobody should give a political colour.

The court noted there were at least five such pleas before the Allahabad High Court, seven before the Madhya Pradesh HC, two each before the Gujarat and Jharkhand HCs, three before the Himachal Pradesh, and one each before the Karnataka and Uttarakhand HCs.

Jamiat Ulama-I-Hind also moved the apex court against the anti-conversion laws of UP, MP, Gujarat, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh and argued they were enacted to "harass" interfaith couples and implicate them in criminal cases.

The Supreme Court, in a judgment last year, held that religious conversion without any actual belief, largely intended to procure quota benefits, defeats the social ethos of the reservation policy and amounts to a fraud on the Constitution.

UNDER DURESS

Banned Khalistani outfit Sikhs For Justice has issued a warning to Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, asking him to stop celebrations related to birth anniversary of B R Ambedkar on April 14 in the state.

2 KILLED IN ROAD MISHAP IN ASSAM'S GUWAHATI

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	38	24	Mumbai	32	26
Bhopal	38	24	Panaji	34	27
Jaipur	37	26	Patna	34	25
Amritsar	29	19	Lucknow	37	23
Chennai	34	29	Port Blair	28	26
Kolkata	34	28	Imphal	28	19
Srinagar	16	09	Chandigarh	33	19

■ While the Board chief dubs the move 'crucial', NC terms it 'biased' ■ Month-long nationwide campaign to focus on poll-bound states

BJP-led Waqf Board, Omar govt at odds on Act in J&K

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

IN Jammu and Kashmir, the J&K Waqf Board led by a BJP leader, is at odds with the elected Omar Abdullah government over the Waqf Amendment Act. While the Board chairperson Darakshan Andrabi hailed it as a significant improvement for Waqf institutions, the ruling NC denounced the Act, claiming that it targets a specific religion.

Andrabi, a senior BJP leader, said, "The Act will significantly improve Waqf institutions by introducing greater transparency and accountability."

She said the Bill has already received the President's assent and is being implemented across the country, including J&K. On opposition parties moving the Supreme Court to challenge the Act, Andrabi said, "They can move the apex court if they want, but these amendments were necessary for our country. It will lead to the development of Waqf Boards, and there will also be accountability".

The stand of the J&K Waqf Board chairperson is in stark contrast to that of the Omar Abdullah government.

A senior NC leader said that after 2019 (the abrogation of Article 370), many central laws were imposed in J&K, and now the J&K Waqf Board is not under the J&K government's purview but under the control of the central government.

"You have seen after being elected, the Omar Abdullah government did not change the J&K Waqf Board chairperson because it does not fall in its jurisdiction," he said.

As per CM Omar Abdullah, the Waqf Amendment Act has hurt the sentiments of the majority of the people in J&K. "There is a widespread feeling that the government is interfering in religious matters, particularly those concerning the Muslim community. There was no need for the Waqf Amendment Act, and only one religion was being targeted," he said.

He said non-Muslims are being allowed to review the Waqf activities and questioned, "Will you allow Muslims to manage the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine or Amarnath Shrine Board? Will you accept non-Sikh members in the Shri Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee?"

The standoff over the issue paralysed the Assembly's functioning for three straight days.

'A much-needed move for transparency'

J&K Waqf Board chairperson Darakshan Andrabi said the Bill has already received the President's assent and is being implemented across the country, including J&K. On opposition parties moving the SC to challenge the Act, Andrabi said, "They can move the apex court if they want, but these amendments were necessary for our country."

Will never allow Waqf Act to be implemented in J'khand: Minister

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

AS controversy over the Waqf (Amendment) Act rages on, Jharkhand Health Minister Irfan Ansari has defiantly declared that he would not allow the legislation to be implemented in the state at any cost. Ansari hit out at the saffron party during a public meeting, raging, "The BJP is behaving like a demon that wants to swallow our rights and privileges."

Ansari accused the Modi-led Central government of targeting members of the minority community through contentious laws like this.

"Our rights and land are being snatched away from us. I want to make it clear that I will never allow the Waqf Act to be implemented in Jharkhand," Ansari said. He also called out the "dictatorial attitude" of the Modi regime and asserted that the Centre would not have its way in Jharkhand.

He further accused the Modi regime of "killing democracy" in the country and described the Act as part of a well-planned conspiracy against Muslims. Describing himself as the voice of the Muslim community, he vowed to continue fighting for society, minority rights and ideals of the Constitution till his last breath.

BJP will launch outreach from April 20 to counter Oppn 'misinfo' campaign

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

THE Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) proposes a month-long nationwide campaign to counter the Opposition's alleged misinformation about the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025. The campaign will focus on Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, which will hold Assembly elections in the coming months.

The party organised a workshop in Delhi on Thursday with BJP chief JP Nadda and Union Minister of Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju. They explained the finer points of the new legislation in detail and guided party members on effectively running the campaign.

They urged leaders to reach out, especially to Pasmanda Muslims, emphasising that the Modi government's reforms aim to bring justice to those affected by illegal land acquisitions. The campaign from April 20 to May 20 will involve BJP MPs, Union ministers, around 10 lakh active party workers, office-bearers and members of frontal organisations, including the Minority Morcha.

Nadda encouraged party members to highlight the benefits of the Waqf reforms for the poor and women, including increased rights, representation, and transparency. "The Muslims must be educated with the facts to expose the Opposition's misleading stand on it as part of their politics of appeasement," Nadda stated.

Rijiju covered key aspects of the Act, informing the participants: "This is an important step towards transparency, accountability and justice".

BJP members of Waqf boards from BJP-ruled states also participated in the workshop and will assist in local outreach, especially in Pasmanda and Muslim-majority areas.

The BJP leaders were instructed to clarify that non-Muslim presence in Waqf Councils and boards relate solely to property management, not religion.

Pasmanda Muslims

The party campaign is aimed at states like Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, where Assembly elections are due. The drive is to reach out among a large section of people, especially to Pasmanda Muslims, highlighting the Narendra Modi government's "efforts to end illegal land acquisitions".

RANCHI DIARY

MUKESH RANJAN
Our correspondent in Jharkhand
mukesh.r@newindianexpress.com

559 IEDs destroyed in 39 months in Singhbhum

Security forces have recovered and disarmed as many as 559 IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices) planted by Maoists in forests of West Singhbhum. Several personnel besides ordinary village folk have perished in blast triggered by the grim devices. A total 66 IEDs were unearthed in 2022, with the number spiking to 272 in 2023; 131 were recovered in 2024, while 91 have emerged till April 6, 2025. Counting casualties, in November-December 2022, two villagers died due in IED blasts in Chaibasa forests, while in 2023, seven villagers died and four were seriously injured. In 2024, three villagers and a jawan were killed, while in 2025, a villager and a CRPF officer died and four were injured.

Soren govt bans spike bits on horses

In a bid to end cruelty towards horses, the state govt has banned manufacture, sale and use of traded spiked bits, used to control them. A government letter, dated March 19, has been shot to all the districts to ensure proper implementation. The move, came in the wake of the Centre's existing rules. The Animal Welfare Board of India also announced a nationwide ban on such practices to end cruelty on horses in the past. The districts have also been asked to conduct raids in this regard. Governments of Nagaland, MP, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Ladakh, Rajasthan, UP and Meghalaya have banned traded spiked bits.

Unseasonal storms set to hit Jharkhand

A spell of unseasonal and turbulent weather is set to sweep across large swathes of the state over the next few days. The Met office has issued alerts for thunderstorms, lightning, and strong surface winds up to 50 kmph, attributing the instability to a prominent low-pressure system persisting over southwest Bay of Bengal. Hailstorms are likely in isolated parts of eastern Jharkhand on April 10, accompanied by thunderstorm and gusty winds. South, east, and central districts are expected to face another bout of thunderstorms and strong winds up on April 11 which will further escalate on April 12 and 13 with inclement conditions over east and central Jharkhand.

C'garh gets 1st semiconductor plant in Raipur

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

INDIA'S first semiconductor chip manufacturer will launch a semiconductor chip and advanced packaging unit in Chhattisgarh's new capital city, Nava Raipur.

Chennai-based Polymatech Electronics will set up a semiconductor plant to produce advanced technology of Gallium Nitride (GaN) semiconductor chips, enabling the working of 5G and 6G technologies.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai will perform 'Bhoomipujan' and attend the foundation stone laying ceremony on April 11 for a semiconductor manufacturing unit to be established at a cost of 1,143 crore.

"As India accelerates toward becoming a global semiconductor powerhouse, this facility aligns with Atmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India initiatives. It will reduce import dependency while strengthening domestic manufacturing capabilities" said Eswara Rao Nandam, Managing Director & CEO (Polymatech Electronic).

"The collaboration is expected to boost Chhattisgarh's capabilities in global semiconductor manufacturing," said Rajat Kumar, commerce and industry department secretary.

Security forces step up offensive, destroy five J'khand Maoist bunkers

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

IN a major breakthrough, security forces have demolished five underground Maoist bunkers in the Kalpaburu jungles, falling under Jaraikele police station in Chaibasa.

It is believed that the CPI-Maoist rebels were using these bunkers for hiding after carrying out subversive activities. The police and paramilitary forces were prompted to blow up the bunkers one by one after discovering the existence of one of them at the Kulpaburu jungle.

According to the police, a search operation has been underway in the jungles of Chotanagra and Jaraikela since March 4, 2025. "We have recovered five bunkers used by the Maoists for hiding during operations. These bunkers are large enough to accommodate several rebels at once, measuring nearly eight feet high and 15 feet long," said Chaibasa SP Ashutosh Shekhar.

These bunkers are opened from both the ends, helping them to escape if found by the security forces, he added.

According to SP, some essential daily-use items have also been recovered from these bunkers. Their condition states they were last used just 10-15 days back and abandoned after the search operation was started, he said. On April 5, the security forces recovered and destroyed 16 bunkers used by the Maoist insurgents. According to SP Shekhar, each bunker was large enough to accommodate between 40 to 50 Maoist operatives, indicating the scale of insurgent activity in the area.

The operation is part of an intensified crackdown on Maoist elements in the region, with efforts aimed at disrupting their logistical bases and preventing planned attacks. The police continue to monitor the area and are on high alert for any further movement of senior Maoist leaders.

Notably, Maoists are now restricted only to Saranda jungles in Jharkhand as they have been wiped out from other pockets of the state. According to an estimate, around 85-90 Maoists are hiding in Saranda jungles, where they have planted thousands of IEDs, posing a challenge for the security forces.

'Sacked' teachers on hunger strike against police action

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

WEST Bengal teachers who lost their jobs following a Supreme Court order organised a mega rally in Kolkata on Thursday against alleged police excesses the previous day when they tried to submit their demands to the authorities.

The teachers said police officers allegedly kicked some of them and subjected them to a baton charge on Wednesday at the District Inspector Office in south Kolkata. In response, they have been on a relay hunger strike outside the West Bengal School Service Commission (SSC) office since Wednesday evening.

The teachers said the Mayor of Kolkata, Firhad Hakim, created an issue when he told them it was not correct for them to gherao the DI Office when the chief minister had asked them to return to work voluntarily.

Such statements were in bad taste, especially when thousands of teachers had lost their jobs and were trying to get them back.

"We started a relay hunger strike agitation with one teacher at the beginning and will soon chalk out a further programme to protest the issue," one of the protesters told reporters outside the SSC office in Salt Lake.

Noting that the police have lodged cases against the protesting teachers over Wednesday's protest at Kasba, former Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay said that the police should not have done that.

He maintained that he had not gone to meet Education Minister Bratya Basu on Wednesday to protest the police action, but he said that the BJP leadership supported his decision.

Gangopadhyay said that he and former Rajya Sabha MP Rupa Ganguly came to the protest site at Acharya Sadan to express solidarity with the teachers and other staff who lost their jobs. As a Calcutta High Court judge, Gangopadhyay had ordered a CBI investigation in November 2021 into alleged irregularities in the recruitment process.

The Supreme Court on April 3 upheld a 2024 Calcutta High Court judgment annulling the recruitment of 25,753 teaching and non-teaching staff appointed through an SSC recruitment drive in 2016, terming the entire selection process "vitiated and tainted."

Teachers who lost their jobs following a SC judgment, protest against the state government demanding the reinstatement of qualified teachers on Thursday | PTI

NE, Haryana link in Gujarat arms licence racket

Bogus licenses: Fraudulent arms licenses issued to Gujaratis using fake Nagaland & Manipur addresses

Seizures: 21+ firearms, **624** live cartridges recovered

Key source: Racket operated from Nuh, Haryana; licenses traced back to Northeast

Payment channels: Angadiya networks, bank transfers used

Kingpins named: Saukat, Farooq, Sohim & Asif ran racket from Haryana

Massive crackdown: 108 booked, **23** arrested, manhunt on for others

New arrests: 16 more nabbed after April 8 operation; 15 more weapons, **489** cartridges seized.

Modus operandi: Arms flaunted at weddings, luring others into **₹5–25 lakh** scams

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
@ Ahmedabad

IN a major crackdown, the Gujarat ATS has busted a racket involving bogus arms licenses issued to people from Gujarat using fake addresses from Nagaland and Manipur.

The ATS seized over 21 firearms and 624 live cartridges, unearthing the network. Individuals from Haryana are behind the counterfeit license scam linked to the Northeast. The ATS has booked 108 people and arrested 23, while a search is underway for the rest.

Initially, the ATS arrested seven accused, supposed to be the kingpins, with six illegal weapons and 135 live cartridges. They used to flaunt the weapons at religious functions and weddings, strapping the weapons to their waists, operating as walking advertisements.

Some people, captivated by the firearms, expressed interest in owning them. Subsequently, they submitted Aadhaar cards and IT returns. They were delivered fake licenses and weapons within days of making the payment.

They paid between ₹5 lakh and ₹25 lakh to obtain fake licenses and weapons from outside Gujarat, using payment channels like Angadiya networks and bank transfers. Following their trail, the ATS arrested 16 such persons.

These individuals have confessed to acquiring fake arms licenses and weapons directly from the accused. Key among the latter are Shaukat Ali, Farooq Ali, Sohim Ali, and Asif, who procured forged licenses from Nagaland and Manipur while operating out of Nuh, Haryana.

Investigations have revealed that this Haryana-based network issued bogus licenses to at least 37 individuals. The ATS suspects the possible complicity of officials from Nagaland and Manipur in enabling the arms license scam.

Poison plot in Surat diamond factory busted

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Ahmedabad

IN a horrifying case of suspected mass poisoning, unidentified perpetrators spiked the drinking water filter at a diamond factory in Surat's Kapodra area with a pouch of Cellophane—a toxic pesticide typically used to preserve grains. As many as 118 workers fell ill, and six are battling for their lives in intensive care.

Emergency teams rushed the affected workers to local hospitals. The incident occurred at a diamond polishing unit, where the day began routinely. By 8.30 am, over 120 employees had reported for duty. However, after an hour, workers began collapsing and complained of dizziness, breathlessness, and nausea.

Rare Indian giant flying squirrel spotted in Ranikhet mountains

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

AN Indian giant flying squirrel has been spotted in Ranikhet, a hill station in Almora district of Uttarakhand, for the first time. Locals have hailed the sighting of the elusive nocturnal creature in their town as a good omen.

The arboreal rodent is listed in Schedule II of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, as it is on the brink of extinction. Renowned nature and wildlife photographer Kamal Goswami, who was the one to spot it, expressed, "This mysterious creature is distinct from the common squirrel. So, I consider it a privilege to have spotted this rare species, which is on the verge of extinction."

When Goswami spotted the flying squirrel on Wednesday night, he alerted the Forest Department about it. "Upon receiving the information, the department swiftly rescued the squirrel and released it back into the wild," an official confirmed.

Goswami, who is a serving Uttarakhand police cop besides being an avid naturalist, pointed out how the name of the creature is a misnomer: "The flying squirrel glides between trees. But it does not actually fly, unlike what its name suggests. A thin membrane stretching from its neck to tail — its most notable feature — enables it to cover long distances."

Discussing its physical attributes, he said, "Its body measures 30–45 cm in length, with a fluffy tail extending up to 40–50 cm. It can weigh between 1.5 and two kilograms."

Sharing more insights about the species, he noted, "Its primary diet consists of fruits, seeds, flowers, tender leaves, and insects. The creature reproduces only once a year, giving birth to one to three young ones at a time."

Dwelling on the vital role these squirrels play in the ecosystem, Goswami shared, "By consuming fruits and dispersing seeds, the squirrel facilitates the growth of new plants. Besides, it feeds on small insects. Owls, snakes and wild cats are known to prey on it. This highlights its crucial role in maintaining the ecological balance."

218
people dead in Dominican nightclub roof collapse disaster

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	24	13	SNY	Los Angeles	28	14	LC
Colombo	33	26	LC	Melbourne	27	15	SNY
Dhaka	35	25	SNY	Moscow	1	-2	LR
Dubai	31	23	SNY	New York	8	5	SNY
Houston	27	16	LC	Singapore	31	25	LR
Istanbul	11	5	LR	Toronto	4	1	LC
London	15	6	SNY	Washington	12	7	SNY

US clarifies tariffs on China is 145%; EU pauses retaliation for 90 days

White House says the 125% is over and above the 20% already imposed by Trump earlier

WASHINGTON

THE US-China trade war intensified Thursday, sending the global economy into unknown territory and dampening relief after President Donald Trump's earlier climbdown from a wider tariff onslaught against the rest of the world.

The White House clarified that Trump's big hike in tariffs on China announced 24 hours earlier had actually taken his total levies this year on imports from the world's second biggest economy to a staggering total of 145 per cent — not the previously reported 125 per cent.

This was because latest tariff hike comes on top of a 20 percent tariff already imposed earlier. The superpower confrontation threw a deep shadow over jubilation that Trump was retreating from threats to impose punishing tariffs on dozens of other countries —everywhere from European Union allies to Asian manufacturing hubs like Vietnam and even tiny, remote ocean islands. Trump maintained a blanket 10 percent tariff on most countries. However, his retreat from more damaging levies against European countries prompted the EU to pause plans for its own retaliation.

Containers with Yang Ming Marine Transport Corporation stacked up at the Port of Los Angeles with the the Long Beach International Gateway Bridge seen in the background on Wednesday | AP

Amid relief, Asian and European stock markets rocketed, with Tokyo closing 9.1 percent higher. But realisation that Trump's splashy about-face on Wednesday masked the reality of a surging trade war with China dampened spirits.

The Dow Jones in New York fell more than three percent and the S&P dropped 4.5 percent in morning trading. Gold prices hit a record high as the US dollar crumbled.

Amid questions over how far Trump is ready to push, the European Union welcomed the US president's partial rowback on his original threat to impose 20 percent tariffs against the bloc. The 27-nation grouping responded with its own olive branch, suspending for 90 days tariffs on 20 billion euros' worth of US goods that had been greenlit in retaliation to duties on steel and aluminum. *AFP*

China seeks allies as Don raises tariffs, vows to fight till the end

TAIPEI

CHINA is reaching out to other nations as the US layers on more tariffs in what appears to be an attempt to form a united front to compel Washington to retreat. Days into the effort, it's meeting only partial success with many countries unwilling to ally with the main target of President Donald Trump's trade war.

Facing the cratering of global markets, Trump on Wednesday backed off his tariffs on most nations for 90 days, saying countries were lining up to negotiate more favorable conditions.

China has refused to seek talks, saying it would "fight to the end" in a tariff war, prompting Trump to further jack up the tax rate on Chinese imports to 145 per cent. China has retaliated with tariffs on US goods of 84 per cent, which took effect Thursday.

Trump's move was seemingly an attempt to narrow what had been an unprecedented trade war between the US and most of the world to a showdown between the U.S. and China.

"A just cause receives support from many," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian said at a daily briefing on Thursday. "The US cannot win the support of the people and will end in failure."

China has thus far focused on Europe, with a phone call between Premier Li Qiang and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen "sending a positive message to the outside world." "China is willing to work with the EU to jointly implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of China and the EU...," the official Xinhua News Agency reported. *AFP*

TRADE WAR: CHINA'S 84% TARIFFS ON US IMPORTS TAKE EFFECT

Tariffs of 84 per cent on all Chinese imports of American goods took effect on Thursday, deepening a trade war between Beijing and Washington which has rocked global markets and sparked fears of a recession. Levies will apply to all US products entering the world's second-largest economy, which according to the office of the US Trade Representative, totalled $143.5 billion in 2024. In Hong Kong, local office of China's Foreign Ministry's spokesperson reiterated Beijing's unwillingness to negotiate with the US under current conditions.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT GRINDS TO A HALT

In Argentina's Buenos Aires, trains services were disrupted at the Constitution train station during a 24-hour strike called by workers' unions against the economic policies of President Javier Milei. The 24-hour general strike started at midnight as the country awaits news on a fresh IMF loan | AFP

Defence chiefs from 30 countries meet for talks on Ukraine peace force

BRUSSELS

BRITAIN's defence minister on Thursday urged military leaders from around 30 countries to press ahead with plans to deploy troops to Ukraine to police any future peace agreement with Russia.

The meeting at NATO headquarters in Brussels — the first between defense ministers representing the so-called coalition of the willing — comes after a visit to Kyiv last week by senior British and French military officers. It's expected to work on fleshing out an agreement reached at an earlier meeting between leaders.

John Healey, Britain's defense minister, opening the meeting said, "We must put more pressure on (Russia's) President Putin to end his war." He said 200 military planners from 30 countries were working to develop plans for deepening European involvement in Ukraine. "We must be ready for when that peace comes. That's why the work of this coalition is so vital. We're stepping up. We're serious," Healey said. Ukrainian government officials and military analysts have said that Russian forces are preparing to launch a fresh military offensive in Ukraine in the coming weeks to maximise pressure on Kyiv and strengthen the Kremlin's negotiating position in ceasefire talks.

As usual with coalition gatherings, the United States will not take part, but the success of the coalition's operation hinges on US backup with airpower or other military assistance. However, the Trump administration has made no public commitment to provide support.

The Netherlands, Sweden and Finland underlined the "crucial" role of the United States. EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas said ministers were "trying to keep the United States on board." The ceasefire is likely to be monitored with technical means such as surveillance cameras and satellites. Any troops doing this would have to be acceptable to both sides. *AP*

European Union foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas speaks during a press conference at the end of the EU-Ukraine Association Council at the European Council building in Brussels | AFP

Israel military says air force to fire pilots who signed Gaza war petition

JERUSALEM

AN Israeli military official said Thursday that reserve pilots who publicly called for securing the release of hostages, even at the cost of ending the Gaza war, would be dismissed from the air force.

"With the full backing of the chief of the General Staff, the commander of the IAF (Israeli air force) has decided that any active reservist who signed the letter will not be able to continue serving in the IDF (military)," the official told AFP in response to a letter signed by around 1,000 reserve and retired pilots.

The letter, which was published on a full page in multiple daily newspapers, directly challenges the policy of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has insisted that increased military pressure on Gaza is the only way to get Palestinian militants to release hostages seized during Hamas's October 2023 attack.

"We, the aircrew in the reserves and retired, demand the immediate return of the hostages even at the cost of an immediate cessation of hostilities," the letter said.

The military official said most of the signatories of the letter were not active reservists.

"Our policy is clear - the IDF stands above all political dispute. There is no room for any body or individual...while simultaneously participating in the fighting and calling for its cessation," the official said.

Netanyahu said he supported the move to dismiss any active pilots who had signed the letter. "Refusal is refusal – even when it is implied and expressed in euphemistic language," a statement released by his office said. Gaza's civil defence agency said at least 23 people, including women and children, were killed in the strike which levelled a four-storey residential building. *AFP*

Russia, US swap high-profile prisoners amid tensions

DUBAI

MOSCOW freed a Russian American convicted of treason in exchange for a Russian German man jailed on smuggling charges in the US, a prisoner swap that was completed Thursday as the two countries met to repair ties.

Ksenia Karelina is "on a plane back home to the United States," US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said in a post on social media platform X. She was arrested in the Ural Mountains city of Yekaterinburg in February 2024 and convicted of treason on charges stemming from a donation of about $52 to a charity aiding Ukraine. US authorities have called the case "absolutely ludicrous." Arthur Petrov was released as part of a swap in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, according to the Federal Security Service, or FSB, Russia's main security and counterintelligence agency. Karelina was among a growing number of Americans arrested in Russia as tensions between Moscow and Washington spiked over the war in Ukraine. Her release is the latest in a series of high-profile prisoner exchanges Russia and the US carried out in the last three years, and the second since President Donald Trump took office and reversed Washington's policy. *AFP*

Ksenia Karelina

ASIA MATTERS

MINISTRY SUPPORTS GAZA EVAC PLAN

The Ministry of Defense and the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI) are ready to support President Prabowo Subianto's plan to evacuate Palestinian citizens affected by Israel's indiscriminate attacks on Gaza. Head of the Defense Ministry's Information Bureau, Brigadier General Frega Wenas Inkiriwang, emphasised that the two institutions have the infrastructure and facilities needed to rescue and treat them in Indonesia. Inkiriwang expressed confidence that both institutions have the capability to execute the President's plan

LAWYER CONTRITE OVER RAPE REMARKS

Former Law Society vice-president Chia Boon Teck, criticised for remarks about a rape survivor, told Minister K Shanmugam that he would "reflect and change." Chia, the co-managing director at Chia Wong Chambers, sought the meeting, faced backlash for his LinkedIn post on a Tinder rape case. His account has since been disabled.

RULES SETS FOR NON-PRISON DETENTION

Thailand has introduced new regulations detailing criteria for detaining inmates outside traditional prisons. Published in the Royal Gazette, the rules specify eligible facilities, inmate categories, and supervision conditions. Approved locations include homes, training centers, schools, religious sites, and medical facilities. Only low-risk offenders, first-time convicts, and pregnant women qualify. Serious offenders and repeat violators are excluded. Authorities stress strict compliance, warning that violations could lead to civil or criminal liability.

EXPRESS READ

Court issues warrant against Hasina, daughter

Dhaka : Prosecutors say investigations into "crimes against humanity" charges against deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina are nearly complete. The case, linked to mass killings and enforced disappearances during 2024 will soon be filed in International Crimes Tribunal. The tribunal has sought Interpol red notices. *PTI*

PUBLIC NOTICE

I the undersigned advocate on behalf of my clients **Sri.Srinivasa.M S/o Late.Motappa**, aged about 45 years, Rlat: M.Hosahalli village, Budigere post, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District and others have filed the above petition for the death certificate of **Late. Venugopal S/o Srinivasa.M who died on 12.09.2023** at East Point College of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, Bidarahalli, Bengaluru. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the HON'BLE 2nd ADDL. CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE BENGALURU RURAL DISTRICT AT BENGALURU and the date of hearing **on 06.05.2025 at 11.00 A.M.** in **C.Mis No. 344/2025.**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- SHERISTEDAR, Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bangalore Rural Dist. Bangalore
Sri K.T. Sathyanarayana Prasad, Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to the general public that my client Sri. Asgar Khan has lost the original Rectification deed dated 06-08-2010 registered as document No. BMH-1-03369/2010-11 and stored in C.D.No. BMHD431 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru in respect of the property now owned by my client.

If anybody finds or comes to know of the said original Rectification deed may intimate or deliver the same to the undersigned who shall be suitably rewarded. Any claim or right of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property may also be notified to the undersigned.

Sd/-
Mohanadasa N., Advocate,
No.3944/A, 2nd Cross, 'B' Block,
Rajajinagar 2nd Stage,
Subrahmanyanagar, Bengaluru - 560021
Mobile Nos. 9448129391 or 9886776714

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that, my client **Sri. Srinivasa B Samaga,** aged about 58 Years, Residing at No. 625,Shanthilal Layout, Segehalli Gate, Magadi Main Road, Kannahalli, Bangaluru -560 091, have lost the original sale deed document bearing No.**BNG(U)-KNGR/05295/2011-12 STORED IN CD NO. KEND455 DATED 07/12/2011 IN RESPCET OF VACANT SITE NO 39 FORMED IN CONVERTED SY. NO. 6 & 9/2, SITUATED AT SULIKERE VILLAGE, KENGERI HOBLI, BANGALORE SOUTH TALUK MEASURING TO AN EXTENT OF EAST TO WEST: (5.60+6.30)/2 METERS AND NORTH TO SOUTH: (9.20+9.14)2 METERS TOTALLY MEASURING 54.56 SQUARE METERS, AND BOUNDED ON:** East by: Private property, West by: Site No.38, North by: Site No. 20, South by : 9 Mtrs Road. The above said original document have been lost while in transit at Segehalli Gate, Magadi Road, Bangalore on 07/04/2025 in this regard my client lodged a Police complaint before Tavarikere Police, Ramanagara unit on 08/04/2025 vide report 1555430/2025, if any one find the above said original document kindly return to the undersigned address.

MANUSHANKAR S.S, Advocate
SVS LAW CHAMBERS
No. 213/A, Vasavi complex, 56th cross, 10th main, 4th block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010.
Mob: 9916775782/8618108850

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL DISTRICT MUNSIFF PADMANABHAPURAM
O.S.NO: 48 / 2023

Plaintiff : K.S.Sam Emmanuel Jeya Raja, S/o. Samuel, Advocate, residing at Puthuveettuvilai, Kannanoor & Post & Village, Thiruvattar Taluk, Kanyakumari District.

Defendant (11) : Selva Bai, W/o. Isravel, aged about 56 years, residing at "Mary Kavitha Illam", Virkunagar & Post, Bangalore - 49.

It is informed that to you as per order of this Honourable Court, plaintiff filed a suit for declaration, Permanent Injunction and other reliefs against you and 12 others, the suit is posted for your appearance on 26.04.2025. If any serious objection above suit you must appear before this Honourable Court personally or through advocate on the same day. If failing ex-parte order was passed against you and pass necessary orders by the Honourable Court, take notice.

J. Jaya Singh
Advocate
10.04.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, the undersigned bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Sri.Monica W/O Narayan Rao,** Residing at #29, 1st Main Road, 2nd Cross, Bank Nagar, Near S.T Anthony School, Yelenahalli, Bangalore south, Bangalore-560068. she has lost the Original Sale Deed Document No.9391/2003-04 .Dated:14-08-2003, She has lost at Near ST Anthony school, Accordingly She has lodged the complainant on Bengaluru City Police, Dated on 10-04-2025, with E-Lost report No. 1559671/2025.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No.29, Katha No 35/4,property Nos.35/4 &35/5 Situated at Yalenahalli village, Bangalore south, Bangalore-560068. measuring East to West : 40 feet, North to South: 30 feet in all measuring 1200 sq feet, and bounded on **East by:** Site No.42, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Site no.28, **South by :** Site no.30, If anyone finding the aforesaid documents is hereby requested to handover the same to our office at the address mentioned hereunder.

HARISHA S, Advocate
No.2,1st Floor Byranna Building
Madanayakanahalli, Bengaluru-562 125.
Mobile : 90609 50265.

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, the undersigned bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Mrs.Shobha C/o Kumar,** Residing at No : #186,2nd C Main Road, 8th Block Koramangala, Bangalore south, bangalore-560095. She has lost the Release Deed Document No.BTM-1-05171/2017-18, Dated: 20-02-2018 She has lost at Near Koramangala Bus Stop, Accordingly he has lodged the complainant on Bengaluru City police, Dated on 10/04/2025, with E-Lost report No.1559662/2025.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing property No.186, Situated at WARD NO.147, 8th Block, Koramangala, bangalore and measuring East to West : 7.45 Meters and North to south : 6.15 meters in all totally measuring 45.81 Square Meters, and bounded on **East by :** Road, **West by :** Site no.130, **North by :** Site no.185, **South by :** Site no.187. If anyone finding the aforesaid documents is hereby requested to handover the same to our office at the address mentioned hereunder.

HARISHA S, Advocate
No.2,1st Floor Byranna Building
Madanayakanahalli, Bengaluru-562 125.
Mobile : 90609 50265.

IN THE COURT OF THE XXXV ADDL CITY CIVIL JUDGE, (CCH-36), BANGALORE
O.S. No.709/21

BETWEEN: Smt.A.W.Sulthana Begum, W/o Late. A.S. Inayath Pasha, Aged about 56yrs, Resdiding at No.26-27, Tupakil Mohammed Shah Street, Pennagaram – 636810, Dharampuri post, Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu. ... **PLAINTIFF**

AND: Smt. Sajida Banu ... DEFENDANT

SUIT SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT No.1

D1: Smt. Sajida Banu, W/o S. Babu, Aged about 54yrs, Residing at No.C1 3/08, Nilgiris Super Market Road, 8th Cross, Hosur. ... **DEFENDANT No.1**

Whereas the Plaintiff/petitioner has filed/instituted the above case/petition against you the Defendant no.1 and others, in the O.S.No.709/21, pending before City Civil Judge, (CCH-36), Bengaluru., restraining you, your agents servants, henchmen, supporters or any other person acting under him from interfering with the Plaintiff's peaceful possession and enjoyment of suit schedule property. You are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person or through a pleader duly instructed on **22-04-2025** at 11:00 A.M. to answer the same. The Petition will be heard and determined in your absence placing you as Ex-parte.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Eastern portion of the property bearing site No.365, situated at 1st Main Road, Virat Nagar, Bommanahalli Village, BegurHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently coming under BBMP Limits mesuring: On the Eastern side : 22.0' and 11.0'ft, On the Western side: 33.0ft, On the Northern side: 15.0'ft and 7.0'ft, and on the Southern side : 20.0'ft, having totally 605 Sq.ft. and bounded on: East by : Property belonging to Narayanappa, West by: Remaining portion belongs to Badrunnisa, North by: Road, South by: Property belongs to H.R.Hanumappa.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on 24-03-2025

By order of the court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.

Advocate for Plaintiff/Petitioner:
SRI. R. MOHAMMED RIYAZULLA,
R.M.R. & ASSOCIATES
No.174/40, 20-B, Lucky Paradise, 1st Floor, 22nd Cross, 8th F main, 3rd Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru -560 011. Mob: 7406225802.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public is hereby notified that my clients are intending to purchase the "schedule property" mentioned hereunder from its owner **Mr.Kirthi Kumar Gulecha,** Aged about 49 years, S/O. Late Shri. Pukhraj Gulecha, Residing at No: 2, Pranav Apartment, KR Road, Opp: Basavanagudi Police Station, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560 004.

Persons having any objections/claims/disputes in respect of the above transactions, they may lodge their claims with undersigned with the documentary proof within 10 days from the date of publication, failing which my client will proceed with sale transaction with the owner as if there are no objections/claims/disputes in respect of the property and thereafter no objections will be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing Residential Site No.38, measuring 2700 Square Feet, formed in Classic Orchards Phase-II Layout, bearing CMC Khatha No.2150, presently BBMP New E-khatha PID Number-5798797454, issued by BBMP, Anjanapur, Property No-399/3276/2150/38, Situated at: behind Meenakshi Temple, Bannerughatta Road, Ward No. 194- Gottigere, forming part of Sy no 84 of Kothanur Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore-560 076 and bounded by **East:** Road **West:** Site no 35C & 35D, **North:** Site no 37 **South:** Site no 39.

Contact:
Smt. SHAILAJA.
Advocate at Shailaja Law Associates,
No 29, 1st Floor, 4th Main Rd, Arekere MICO Layout 2nd stage, Brindhavan Extension, Arekere, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560076

Sd/-
Yours faithfully
(Smt.SHAILAJA)
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PRO/AAM(M)/05/2025 **GENERAL MANAGER**

220 GW the total installed renewable energy capacity has reached in the country as of March 31, 2025, up from 198.75 GW in the previous fiscal

TCS profit down 1.6% at ₹ 12,224 cr

Not seeing any major cancellations, says CEO; IT services company misses street estimates

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

THE country's largest IT services company Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) on Thursday missed Street expectations and posted a 1.68% decline in its consolidated net profit for Q4FY25 at ₹12,224 crore. The company had reported ₹12,434 crore in the same period the previous year.

It reported a 5.3% year-on-year (YoY) increase in March quarter revenue at ₹64,479 crore, driven by double-digit growth in regional markets. The company had posted ₹61,237 crore revenue in the year-ago period. For full-year FY25, the company reported ₹2,55,324 crore revenue, up 6% compared to ₹2,40,893 crore posted in FY24. In dollar terms, it crossed the $30 billion revenue milestone.

In a post-earnings press conference, K Krithivasan, chief executive and managing director, TCS said that in the last quarter they mentioned that CY25 will be better than CY24 and "We still believe based on the order book that we have announced and kind of deals that we have signed," he said, adding there could be some short-term uncertainties.

According to him, FY26 would be a better year than FY25. On the overall business environment, the chief executive said till February they were quite positive but they started seeing some uncertainty creeping in March, resulting in some project and decision-making delays.

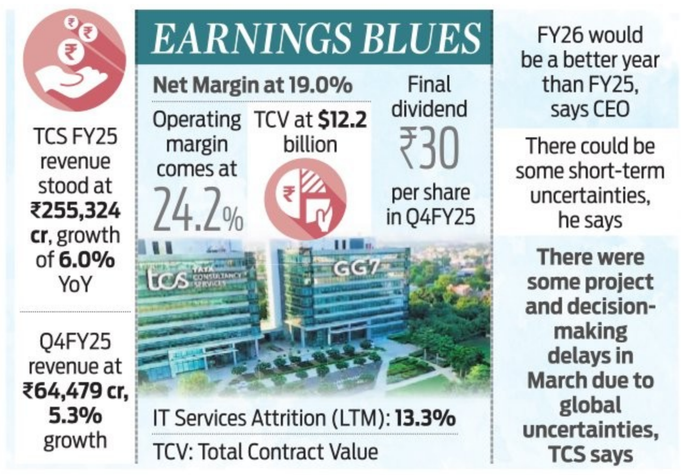
"We have not seen any major project cancellations. There are some ramp downs and delays in decision making," he said, adding they believe over the course of the next few months this uncertainty would settle in.

Because of the tariffs imposed on the auto sector, TCS sees the maximum impact in the sector.

The retail sector might also see some impact. The company's net margin stood at 19% in Q4 and its operating margin was at 24.2%. Its total contract value (TCV) stood at $12.2 billion. The CEO said without uncertainty the order book could have been even better.

The company's growth was led by regional markets (22.5%) and BFSI vertical was up 2.5% YoY. TCS also announced the appointment of Tata veteran Aarthi Subramanian as Executive Director – President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the Company for a term of 5 years commencing from May 1, 2025.

Samir Seksaria, chief financial officer, said "In FY25, our disciplined execution and operational rigor stood out again, as we defended our industry-leading margins while continuing with our investments in talent and capability building. We delivered robust profitability and cash flows this quarter in a very challenging environment without compromising on the right investments in our people, innovation and infrastructure for long-term value creation."


EARNINGS BLUES
TCS FY25 revenue stood at ₹255,324 cr, growth of 6.0% YoY
Net Margin at 19.0%
Operating margin comes at 24.2%
TCV at $12.2 billion
Final dividend ₹30 per share in Q4FY25
Q4FY25 revenue at ₹64,479 cr, 5.3% growth
IT Services Attrition (LTM): 13.3%
TCV: Total Contract Value
FY26 would be a better year than FY25, says CEO
There could be some short-term uncertainties, he says
There were some project and decision-making delays in March due to global uncertainties, TCS says

To defer wage hike amid macro uncertainties

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

TATA Consultancy Services will defer wage hikes for its employees due to macroeconomic uncertainty. Every year the company gives hikes, effective April 1, but this year the company will decide when to give wage hikes during the year.

Milind Lakkad, Chief HR Officer, said, "Considering the uncertain business environment, we will decide during the year when to make that happen."

TCS has onboarded 42,000 trainees in FY25 and this financial year will also see similar numbers or a little higher. Lakkad also said that hiring from the campus is strategic for the company and that it will continue to hire. Its total headcount in FY25 stood at 6,07,979 and IT services attrition was at 13.3%.

The company added 625 employees in the previous quarter and for the full year, it added 6,433 people. Lakkad said attrition has inched up a bit from 13 to 13.3 in this quarter but the company is okay because its quarterly annualised attrition has come down this quarter by 130 basis points.

Markets may see some sparks on temporary halt in US tariff

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

DOMESTIC equities are poised for a strong opening on Friday, buoyed by a global market surge after US President Donald Trump announced a temporary halt to new tariffs. Asian and European indices posted record gains, setting a positive tone for domestic trading.

Japan's Nikkei 225 and Taiwan's Taiwan Weighted Index surged over 9% each and South Korea's Kospi rose more 6.6%. Hong Kong's Hang Seng and China's Shenzhen and Shanghai Composite also advanced between 1 and 2% on Thursday.

Key European markets such as the UK's FTSE, France's CAC and Germany's DAX advanced between 4% and 5% on Thursday. This gain across Asian and European markets came after Wall Street recorded a record again on Wednesday after Trump announced a Tariff pause. The Indian stock exchanges were closed on Thursday, April 10, for Mahavir Jayanti.The S&P 500 skyrocketed 9.52% to settle at 5,456.90 for its biggest one-day gain since 2008. The Dow Jones Industrial Average advanced 2,962.86 points, or 7.87%, to close at 40,608.45 and The Nasdaq Composite jumped 12.16% to end at 17,124.97, its largest one-day jump since January 2001.

The US markets, however, opened lower on Thursday. The Dow Jones, S&P 500 and Nasdaq were down about 2-3% each in the first hour of trade. Further, a tepid show by TCS in its Q4 earnings might weigh on sentiments.

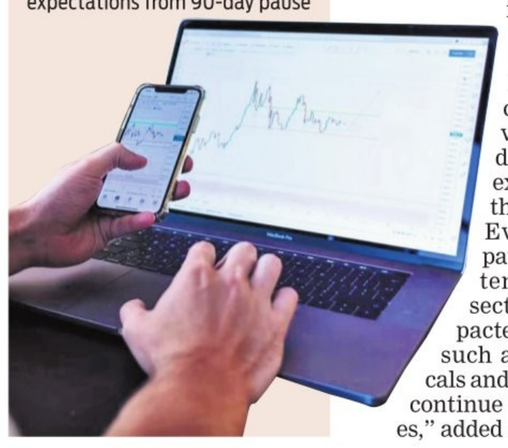
"The Indian market is expected to open strongly on Friday. However, with the news about Trump being absent for about 90 days, it's essentially back to basics," said Anand K Rathi, Co-Founder of Mira Money. In yet another surprising change, Trump announced a 90-day "pause" on reciprocal tariffs for more than 75 countries. However, China was excluded and tariffs on Chinese goods were raised to 125% effective immediately.

Rathi added that Q4 results will play a crucial moment in shaping market trends. "The markets will begin focusing on results and the management commentary regarding their outlook for the new fiscal year and the potential impact of Trump's tariffs on India. If the commentary weakens, the markets may experience significant downward pressure, underlining the situation's urgency," he added. Pranay Aggarwal, director & CEO of Stoxkart, said that recent developments in US trade policy under President Donald Trump have led to significant fluctuations in global markets, including those in India.

"In my view, Indian markets could witness revival tomorrow, driven by positive expectations from this 90-day pause. Even though this pause has provided temporary relief, sectors directly impacted by the tariffs, such as pharmaceuticals and seafood exports, continue to face challenges," added Aggarwal.

Analysts see upside

Pranay Aggarwal, director & CEO of Stoxkart, said developments in US trade policy have led to fluctuations in global markets, including those in Indian markets could see revival on Friday, driven by positive expectations from 90-day pause



Term loan lenders sue Byju Raveendran in US court for $533 mn 'theft'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

BYJU'S term loan lenders have filed a lawsuit against founder Byju Raveendran, his wife and co-founder Divya Gokulnath and Anita Kishore (former chief strategy officer) in the US Bankruptcy court.

This lawsuit was filed following the judgment of the US Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware against Riju Ravindran. The lawsuit claims each of them co-orchestrated and executed a lawless scheme to "conceal and steal $533 million of loan proceeds".

The ad-hoc group of term loan lenders of Byju's Alpha's Term Loans said in a statement, "On the heels of the Delaware Bankruptcy Court's recent judgment against his brother and companies, this action is being brought to now hold Byju Raveendran, the former CEO of Byju's Alpha, and two more co-conspirators – co-founder and close business associate – accountable for their roles in masterminding theft of over half a billion dollars."

It is clear that Byju, Divya, and Anita deliberately hid the assets of Byju's Alpha and repeatedly were deceptive about the location of the money in order to steal funds rightfully owed to the Lenders, they said. "In light of the Court's recent decision, there can be no doubt that they acted unlawfully, breaching fiduciary duties and making numerous misrepresentations, among other misconducts, in the process. If it is not clear to them by now, Byju and his cohorts will soon learn that the laws of the US are immutable, and they can either choose to live the rest of their days as international fugitives or face the music and return the money they stole," they stated.

Founders of Byju's in a statement said it is fabricated and baseless allegations "The allegations made by GLAS in recent lawsuit are baseless and untrue. This lawsuit is a part of their conspiracy to wrestle control of Byju's through nefarious means. It is nothing but yet another cog in the wheel of lies that GLAS, the illegal representative of disqualified lenders in the US, has been rotating for a long time now," the founders added.

BlackRock largest investor in $750 mn bond issue by Adanis

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

FUNDS managed by BlackRock, the global investment behemoth, emerged as the largest subscribers of Adani Group's $750 million private bond issuance.

The US-based asset manager has taken on one-third of the $750 million issuance, which carries a tenure of 3-5 years, according to a PTI report citing sources. This investment comes at a time when Adani Group officials are under scrutiny following a US Department of Justice (DOJ) indictment in a bribery case in November 2024. BlackRock's move marks its first private placement in India's infrastructure sector.

"Infrastructure is one of the most exciting long-term investment opportunities, as a number of structural shifts reshape the global economy," BlackRock Chairman Larry Fink had stated in January 2024. Besides BlackRock, five other institutional investors -- primarily American and European -- also participated in the Adani Group's latest capital raise.

The bond issue of Renew Exim DMCC, a wholly owned offshore entity of the Adani group promoter family, is to be used to finance acquisition of ITD Cementation and other growth avenues.

MANUFACTURING PUSH

India to gain if Apple shifts iPhone mfg from China

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

INDIA could be a major beneficiary of any move to shift iPhone production meant for the US to a cheaper destination, according to a Counterpoint Research report.

The report stated that India's lower tariff rate of 26% as against China and Vietnam, combined with its 20% share of the iPhone supply meant for the US in 2024, positions the country well to benefit from any production shift.

"India makes the most sense for now, followed by Brazil, though increasing capacity in both will take time... For Apple and others, there is a list of things that need to fall into place for India to be a better alternative than before – technological readiness of domestic EMS partners, capex appetite, government support and India's ability to deal with the US at the negotiating table on tariffs. If the country can do these things, it can cement itself as a favorable production destination,"said Neil Shah, Counterpoint's Research vice-President.

Another major tech giant, Samsung — which is less dependent on China but more reliant on Vietnam and South Korea — may also feel the pressure of the tariffs. Vietnam will face a 46% tariff on its exports to the US, which will significantly impact Samsung, as the brand produces more than 60% of its smartphones in the country.

Therefore, the company will have to diversify its production to India or other countries to avoid tariff. However, for the time being the Trump administration has postponed tariff implementation for next 90 days, excluding China. For China, the US has raised tariffs to 125%.

"With significant capacity in India, Samsung can shift production away from Vietnam more quickly than others, helping it offset the impact of the new 46% tariff on Vietnam-made phones. Samsung has two factories in India and one of them has excess capacity, which can be scaled up. Further, if the South Korean government successfully negotiates with the US, some exports of premium models from Samsung's South Korean factories will also see an uplift," said Tarun Pathak, Research Director at Counterpoint Research.

Apple sent 1.5 mn iPhones to US ahead of tariff notice

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

IPHONE maker Apple has shipped nearly 600 tonne of iPhones, equivalent to about 1.5 million units, from India to the US ahead of the US tariff announcements.

According to the sources, the US smartphone maker sought to avoid the tariff by expediting production and shipping. To facilitate the process, Apple lobbied with the Indian airport authorities to reduce customs clearance time at Chennai airport from 30 hours to six hours. This "green corridor" arrangement mirrors a similar model used by Apple at some Chinese airports.

Since March, six cargo jets with a capacity of 100 tonne each have flown from India to the US, with one flight departing this week as new tariffs took effect. Apple sells over 220 million iPhones globally each year.

Counterpoint Research estimates that a fifth of total iPhone imports to the US now come from India, with the majority still originating from China.

According to a report, analysts have warned that prices of iPhones in the United States could increase, given Apple's high reliance on imports from China, the main manufacturing hub of the devices, which is subject to President Donald Trump's highest tariff rate of 125%.

That figure is far in excess of the tariff of 26% on imports from India, but which is now on hold after Trump called a 90-day pause this week that excludes China.

US President Donald Trump consistently increased US tariffs on China, to stand at 125% by Wednesday, from 54% earlier.

At the 54% tariff rate, the $1,599 cost of the top-end iPhone 16 Pro Max in the United States would be surged to $2,300, calculations based on projections by Rosenblatt Securities show.

Speedy transit

Apple lobbied with the Indian airport authorities to reduce customs clearance time from 30 hours to six hours. This mirrors similar model used by Apple at some Chinese airports

iPhone prices may go up

As per a report, analysts have warned that prices of iPhones in the US may go up, given Apple's high reliance on imports from China, the main manufacturing hub of the devices, which is subject to President Donald Trump's highest tariff rate of 125%.

Housing prices rise 9% across top 9 cities in FY25

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE weighted average launch price of homes in India's top 9 cities rose by 9% in FY 2024-25 to Rs 13,197 per sq. ft. as compared to Rs 12,569 per sq. ft. in FY 2023-24, said a report by NSE-listed data analytics firm PropEquity.

In the last one year, housing prices rose the most in Kolkata by 29%, followed by Thane (17%), Bengaluru (15%), Pune (10%), Delhi-NCR (5%), Hyderabad (5%) and Chennai (4%). Housing Prices fell by 3% each in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai.

Samir Jasuja, founder and CEO of PropEquity said that while the demand and supply have been subdued in the past one year, the rise in input cost, including land, labour and construction material, over the past couple of years have led to firming up of housing prices.

As per PropEquity data, housing sales have dipped 23% to 1,05,791 units while supply dipped by 34% to 80,774 in Jan-March of 2025. Except Bengaluru and Delhi-NCR, all 7 cities witnessed a decline in sales. Jasuja added that price appreciation is now growing at a slower rate. Average housing prices grew by 12% in the top 9 cities FY24.

However, in the last two financial years (FY23-25), housing prices have risen by 18% with Bengaluru recording the highest growth at 44%, Kolkata (29%), Chennai (25%), Thane (23%), Delhi-NCR (20%), Pune (18%), Navi Mumbai (13%), Mumbai (11%) and Hyderabad (5%).

Homebuyers protest against Jaypee proj delays

HUNDREDS of homebuyers on Thursday protested against inordinate delay in construction of units under Jaypee Infratech's projects in Noida, despite completion of insolvency resolution process a year ago.

Agitated homebuyers staged a protest, shouted slogans and breached barricades near the Jaypee Infratech's office in Sector 128, Noida (Uttar Pradesh), resulting in police intervention to manage the crowd. This is the latest standoff between the homebuyers and the management concerned over the long-delayed residential projects, which were launched in 2010-11, and the units were to be delivered by 2014-15. *ENS*

Moody's revises India GDP growth to 6.1% for 2025

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

RATING agency Moody's has revised India's GDP growth forecast to 6.1% in 2025 from its March estimate of 6.4% as the threat of 26% tariff hangs over India. Though US President Donald Trump has put on hold the country-wise reciprocal tariffs for 90 days, and applied a 10% blanket tariff in their place, Moody's says their April estimates represent the economic toll most countries will have should the US government eventually go ahead in full.

As per Moody's the US is one of India's largest trading partners, so a 26% tariff hovering over imports of Indian goods will heavily impede the trade balance. According to it, gems and jewellery, medical devices, and textile industries will be among the worst hit.

However, it feels the overall growth to be relatively insulated from the shock since external demand makes up a relatively small portion of GDP.

Moody's says given headline inflation has been easing at a healthy pace, it expects the Reserve Bank of India to lower interest rates, most likely in the form of another 25-basis point cuts that take the policy rate to 5.75% by the end of the year. "This, paired with tax incentives announced earlier this year, should help boost the domestic economy and dampen shock of tariffs on growth relative to other vulnerable economies," Moody's said in a statement.

EXPRESS READ

BoB passes on 25 bps rate cut to customers

NEW DELHI: Bank of Baroda (BoB) on Thursday announced immediate transmission of the RBI's policy rate cut of 25bps to its customers. The bank has cut its external benchmark-linked lending rates for loans catering to retail and MSME segments by 25 bps, ensuring that customers benefit from the RBI's monetary policy move, BoB said. *ENS*

Natural gas demand to rise 60% by 2030

NEW DELHI: The country's natural gas consumption is expected to rise by close to 60% by 2030 on the back of rise in usage of the fuel as CNG in automobiles and for cooking and industrial purposes, according to a study by oil regulator PNGRB. It is projected to rise to 496 mmscmd by 2040 under the same scenario. *ENS*

Vinesh chooses ₹4 cr cash prize after Haryana govt offers options

Wrestler-turned-politician Vinesh Phogat has opted for a cash prize after the Haryana government recently offered to her benefits equivalent to an Olympic silver medallist, asking her to choose from various options. The state's sports policy provides three types of benefits — a cash prize of ₹4 crore, an Outstanding Sportsperson job under Group 'A' & a Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran (HSVP) plot.

With Dhoni back as captain, CSK seek balance

Injury to Gaikwad leaves the five-time champions with little choice as they opt for the 43-year-old star mid season

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN
@ Chennai

ON Thursday morning, the masses in the city and elsewhere in the state geared up to pay their obeisance to 'thala' to watch the Ajith Kumar starrer 'Good Bad Ugly', in the theatres. Even before the harsh summer sun had died on Thursday evening, the masses were trying to source tickets to watch their other 'thala'. It didn't matter that Chennai Super Kings are officially in a crisis having lost four games on the spin. The atmosphere inside the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Friday night, for the visit of the holders, Kolkata Knight Riders, will be like inside a mosh pit because of the return of MS Dhoni in a captaincy role for the first time since the IPL final in 2023.

After that manic, against the odds, post midnight win in Ahmedabad, Dhoni stepped aside as the franchise finally put their much choreographed succession plan into action. After having Ruturaj Gaikwad shadow Dhoni, the management had handed over the reins to the opener. After a 'jury is out' kind of leadership in the first year, the batter had faced some flak, thanks to Chennai's less than impressive start in 2025. But Gaikwad, after sustaining that hit to the elbow in Guwahati, has been ruled out because of a fracture. "He [Gaikwad] got hit in Guwahati," coach Stephen Fleming said at the pre-match press conference. "He's been operating with an amount of pain. We got an X-ray, which was inconclusive, and we had an MRI, which revealed a fracture in his elbow, in the radial neck.

"We're disappointed and feel for him (Gaikwad). We appreciate the efforts that he's gone to in terms of trying to play, but unfortunately, he'd be out of the tournament from now. We have an uncapped player, MS Dhoni, who will take over as captain for the remainder of the IPL."

This is a familiar place for CSK. Turning to Dhoni for captaincy. The last time it happened mid-tournament was when their

MS Dhoni during nets | ASHWIN PRASATH

then permanent captain, Ravindra Jadeja, was replaced in 2022. In all, this is the third time that Dhoni has been asked to lead the side (fourth if you count 2018 after the side had come back post the two-year ban).

After Gaikwad's X-ray revealed a break, the management checked with the 43-year-old if he was receptive to the idea. "He (Dhoni) had no hesitation to step up and help guide us out of this if we can," Fleming said. "So that was never a doubt. We'll look at replacements. We've got some good players in the squad that have been with us a while, so we'll look from within first. But yeah, there is an opportunity to see how we can enhance the squad, probably moving forward into subsequent years."

This again shows various gaps in the way they constructed their squad over the years. In the absence of a clear leader, either domestic or overseas, they have no choice but to go back to somebody whose own fitness has come under scrutiny in 2025. But because they don't have any other tried and tested leader in the squad, they have left themselves with no choice but to go back. If you are talking of overseas players, there are doubts over both Rachin Ravindra and Devon Conway in terms of their place in the side in the long-term. Matheesha Pathirana and Noor Ahmad have good primary skill sets but their cricketing journeys thus far make them no go's. The other way the auction didn't go their way is the amount of money they ended up spending on batters. Excluding Gaikwad and Shivam Dube, both of whom they retained, they didn't spend too much. They shortchanged their batting line-up to pour extra resources into their bowlers but it left them short.

Out of the ₹55 cr purse they had, they allocated roughly ₹21.55 cr to pick up either pure batters or all-rounders who have a reputation of being a hitter in the lower middle-order. The rest went towards strengthening the bowling. This may have been justifiable if their retentions were batting skewed. Even there, they had spent less than half on pure batters (₹31 cr out of ₹65 cr). On Thursday evening, just as the floodlights were replacing natural light, Rahmanullah Gurbaz, their reserve opener and keeper, started range hitting against an assortment of bowlers. Most of his hits peppered the stands next to the media box. That's the kind of reserve strength the hosts do not have.

With Chennai possibly needing to win seven of the remaining nine games to make the playoffs, what will this captaincy call be?

Good? Bad? Ugly?

KKR players enjoy a game of football on the eve of their match | ASHWIN PRASATH

Super Kings look to regain winning touch at Chepauk

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

THE one thought that is likely occupying the minds of the Chennai Super Kings (CSK) think-tank and perhaps millions of CSK fans is how to arrest the slide that the team has experienced in recent weeks. Having lost four games in a row, the CSK team management will be desperately looking to return to winning ways.

To make matters harder, they will have to find solutions without the services of captain Ruturaj Gaikwad, who has been ruled out for the rest of the season. Former captain MS Dhoni, who'll take over the skipper role, will be leading the side against Kolkata Knight Riders at the MA Chidambaram Stadium.

Although it was another loss for CSK in their last match against Punjab Kings, there were hints of improvement in the batting department for the Stephen Fleming-coached side. Fleming has taken note of the positives and is hopeful that the batters can improve in the middle overs. "Well, positive-wise, we batted a bit better (against Punjab). We got some substance from the top order, which has been lacking so we were able to then construct the chase. We just weren't able to keep the run rate at a good level through the middle, and it just left too much towards the end. But we've been out of games, so to be in a game for a lot longer is a positive aspect. The game was really lost in the field," said Fleming.

Apart from batting, CSK bowlers will also be hopeful of making an impact against KKR. Experienced campaigners Ravindra Jadeja and Ravichandran Ashwin will be hoping to be amongst the wickets come Friday. The former New Zealand captain is more concerned about fielding. "But the fielding has been an issue throughout the season, the amount of catches, and again I think that played a part in our defeat, only 18 runs, but just a little bit sloppy, so we're working hard on that, we're working hard on all areas, and look we're not that far away and that's the frustrating thing, but it (bowling) has to click, you're right," he added.

KKR, meanwhile, will be looking to bounce back after their narrow defeat against Lucknow Super Giants in their most-recent match. Despite CSK's troubles, the team from Kolkata are expecting a tough challenge. Vice-captain Venkatesh Iyer is intent on getting a positive outcome. "To be honest, it doesn't really matter if any team shows intent or not. Our planning will always be on point regarding every batsman, what are his strengths and weaknesses and what are our strengths and weaknesses as well," noted Venkatesh.

Varun Chakravarthy will be one of the players to keep a close eye on. Venkatesh is expecting a strong show from the mystery spinner.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Dhoni is important for CSK: Clarke

CHANDRA PRABHU @ Chennai

DESPITE question marks over the batting order of the Chennai Super Kings, particularly with Mahendra Singh Dhoni, former Australia captain and commentator Michael Clarke stressed the importance of game situations. "There's been a lot of talk about him batting down the order, but I feel in T20 cricket, the order is just a number. The game situation should dictate where you bat," said Clarke, in a JioHotstar press room on Thursday.

The former World Cup winner stressed that the franchise should prioritise on winning. "I think at the end of the day, Chennai needs to do whatever it takes to win. So, he came in the other night (vs Punjab) and nearly won the game," he went on to add. The franchise's last game was a 18-run defeat to Punjab Kings.

Clarke also elucidated how CSK are closing in on wins. Explaining the Punjab game, a no-ball was later retracted a fair delivery, which Clarke felt took the game away from CSK. "If that stays a no ball above the waist and then Dhoni hits a boundary off the free hit, I think the result could have been a lot different," he said.

As the former India captain returns to captaincy for CSK, Clarke felt that Dhoni still has something to contribute to the franchise. "He's already adding to his wicket-keeping and his leadership to this Chennai team, which is so important. You see him on the field, helping with field placements. I think he's an important part of this franchise, which he has been from day one," he concluded.

CHENNAI AIM TO AVOID A FIFTH CONSECUTIVE AND A HAT-TRICK OF DEFEATS AT HOME. KOLKATA, INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE (IPL) HOLDERS, SEEK SOME CONSISTENCY. A LOOK AT FRIDAY'S ENCOUNTER...

CSK DESPERATE FOR WIN, KKR SEEK CONSISTENCY

CHENNAI'S POWERPLAY PROBLEMS WITH BAT & BALL

That Chennai has struggled with the bat is known. They have also leaked plenty of runs in the powerplay as the absence of a reliable operator apart from Khaleel Ahmed who has picked wickets in this phase. The experiment to give R Ashwin at least one over in the powerplay has backfired as the veteran offie has gone at over 15.

RAHANE'S REVOLUTION

When Ajinkya Rahane was picked by Chennai, not many would have expected him to become a six-hitter. At Chennai, he became one. Now, in his new home, he has continued with that moniker with franchise leader for fours (17) and sixes (12). If he reprises that crucial No. 3 role on Friday, especially if he can take down pace, Kolkata will be in position A1.

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CSK have never lost a hat-trick of games at home. If they lose vs KKR, they will create another unwanted record in what is quickly becoming a season to forget

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS VS KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS @ CHENNAI | LIVE ON STAR SPORTS AND JIOHOTSTAR, 7.30 PM

Local lad Rahul, bowlers help Delhi beat Bengaluru

ENS/AGENCIES @ Bengaluru

THE wizardry of spinners (Kuldeep Yadav, Vipraj Nigam) and KL Rahul's unbeaten 93 (off 53 balls) helped Delhi Capitals beat Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the Indian Premier League at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium here. Delhi now have four wins out of four so far this season.

First, it was the DC bowlers who did very well to restrict RCB to 163/7. Left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep (2/17) and leg-spinner Nigam (2/18) adjusted their lengths beautifully on a pitch that had a touch of sluggishness to drag RCB innings into a marshy pit after the Capitals chose to bowl first. But Delhi's decision to field looked utterly obtuse as RCB made a lightning start, going past the 50-run mark in just three overs. Central to that charge was opener Phil Salt's innings of 37 off 17 balls. Salt hammered Mitchell Starc for a sequence of 6, 4, 4, 4, 6 to collect 24 runs in the third over. However, Salt got run out in a yes-no situation involving Virat Kohli (22, 14b).

KL Rahul (C) gestures after guiding DC home on Thursday | VINOD KUMAR T

Kohli and Salt added 61 runs off 24 balls for the opening stand. But the introduction of Nigam proved a course-altering point. Devdutt Padikkal and Kohli got out in quick succession and Yadav came to the fore after that to add more misery to RCB.

In reply, DC got off to a worst-possible start and were reeling at 58/4 in the ninth over. That's when Rahul, with support from Tristan Stubbs (38 n.o off 23), took over to flip the narrative. The duo forged a partnership of 111 runs. In the end DC reached the target with 13 balls and six wickets to spare.

Brief scores: RCB 163/7 in 20 ovs (David 37; Nigam 2/18, Yadav 2/17) **lost to** DC 169/4 in 17.5 ovs (Rahul 93 n.o; Bhuvneshwar 2/26).

EXPRESS READ

BAC: Sindhu bows out; Kapila-Crasto in Q/Fs

NINGBO: PV Sindhu bowed out in the pre-quarterfinals of women's singles at the Badminton Asia Championships here. She lost 12-21, 21-16, 16-21 to Akane Yamaguchi. Priyanshu Rajawat, Kiran George (men's singles) also bowed out. The mixed doubles pair of Dhruv Kapila & Tanisha Crasto reached the quarterfinals, beating Ye Hong Wei and Nicole Gonzales Chan of Chinese Taipei 12-21, 21-16, 21-18.

Indian women's hockey team to tour Australia

NEW DELHI: The Indian women's hockey team will tour Australia for a five-match series scheduled from April 26 to May 4, Hockey India said. India will open the series with two matches against Australia A, followed by three games against the senior Australian team. The tour will begin with matches against Australia A on April 26 and 27, followed by matches against Hockeyroos on May 1, 3 and 4.

Lovlina may move to 70kg from 75kg class

NEW DELHI: Tokyo Olympics medallist Lovlina Borgohain could move down to the 70kg category after the International Olympic Committee scrapped her current 75kg weight class for the 2028 LA Games. The IOC on Wednesday announced the event programme and athlete quotas for the Games. With the rejig, Borgohain will have to either move down to 70kg or bulk up to +80kg.

Sensational Barcelona destroy Dortmund

AGENCIES @ Barcelona

ROBERT Lewandowski hit a brace to help a devastating Barcelona rout Borussia Dortmund 4-0 in a one-sided Champions League quarterfinal first leg on Wednesday. Hansi Flick's Barca are a step away from reaching the semifinals for the first time since 2019. The five-time winners took the lead against last year's runners-up through red-hot winger Raphinha before Lewandowski reached 40 goals for the season with his double.

Teenager Lamine Yamal was an unstoppable force throughout and deftly prodded home Barcelona's fourth as Dortmund collapsed.

Barcelona's Lamine Yamal celebrates with teammate Alex Balde (L) | AFP

Advantage PSG

PARIS: Khvicha Kvaratskhelia scored one of the great Champions League goals as Paris Saint-Germain came from behind to beat Aston Villa 3-1 in the first leg of their quarterfinal tie.

Sports ministry recognition will help surfing grow, says SFI president Arun

INDRANEEL DAS @ Chennai

THE Surfing Federation of India (SFI) had been knocking on the doors of the sports ministry for quite some time to get recognition that would help facilitate in identifying and nurturing talent. After years of waiting, the federation finally got the nod. The SFI became the youngest NSF to be recognized by the ministry late last month. With this development, the SFI is now eligible for getting steady funding from the government. But before that, they have to conduct elections, have affiliated state units as part of the national body, hold national camps, appoint national coaches (...) the challenges are aplenty. SFI president, Arun Vasu, has been involved with the federation from a nascent stage. From developing the sport in a fishing village Kovalam, near Chennai, to recognition, he has faced numerous challenges. In a candid interview with this daily, Arun says that he would be holding the elections right away and compliance with the Sports Code would be on top of his agenda. Excerpts...

On getting the recognition from the sports ministry

We started in a very small way 12 years ago. It was supposed to be just a CSR project in a village called Kovalam, where we wanted to promote surfing for the fishing community. There, one led to the other and we started establishing a full-blown school there. In 2020, I was asked to take over as president of the Surfing Federation of India. Until then from 2012 to 2020, we were involved in running all the national events. Though I was not part of the federation, two to three events a year happened on the East Coast of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry. Initially, it was a struggle to get sponsors. It was privately sponsored by me and a lot of friends were convinced to sponsor events. But it was very successful. In that first 10 years, we managed to run two Asian level competitions here and there was one smaller one — an Indian Ocean Challenge that we ran. Initially, we were trying to get people to surf and along the years as it grew, the talent came in. So, most of the talent came from the fishing community.

Kovalam, Mahabalipuram and Pondicherry, Kerala. These were where the talent was. So, when I took over in 2020, of the few things I wanted to do in my tenure, one was to send a team for the ISA World Games. One was to send them to the Asian Surfing Championship and then the other one was to somehow get recognition from the sports ministry.

The first of the two, though it was a lot of money spent, was the easier one. We did send the first-ever India team for the World Games in El Salvador, which was a nightmare to get to and they were really welcoming and the first time that an Indian team had come out to

Arun Vasu | EXPRESS

such a world stage. They were like big heroes and others did not know India even had surfing. The second was going for the Asian Surfing Championship in 2023, which again India did exceedingly well in the first attempt and were already ranked in the top four in Asia.

The recognition part has been a very tough journey. From Day One, I thought it would be easier. I went to Delhi and met the sports minister, met the secretaries, met the Sports Authority of India. And of course all the applications were submitted but the challenge was the 24 states or whatever the Sports Code demanded. For surfing, we can only do it on the coast and we have nine, probably nine states that we can do it. So, that was the biggest challenge.

Whenever I went and met the authorities, they would say, no, no, it's very difficult, you need to comply with 24 states because they didn't understand what surfing was. Of course, later on, the sports secretary came to Chennai and actually saw what the sport was all about and I think she realised that this can't be done only on the coast and we need waves.

I think that was where things started moving a bit. This year, after four years, we finally have managed with a lot of effort to get the recognition done. Though we have done so much the last 10 years and already put India and especially Tamil Nadu on the world map for surfing because in 2023, we ran the World Surfing Games, as you know, and we had about 16 countries that took part and it was a massive event.

We had about 90 athletes that came. So, the Tamil Nadu government has been extremely supportive in the last few years. I think they took surfing as their little baby and started backing us for events.

On Sports Code compliance

If you take the example of Tamil Nadu, it has a massive coastline and I think for TN it wouldn't be too difficult. It's not going to be every district that is going to be compliant to what we are doing. So, as far as surfing goes, maybe we can manage about eight districts on the coastline. But where we can expand under the Surfing Federation of India, as we are governed by ISA, the international body, we are actually the main body for surfing and stand-up paddle. And ISA is the one who is recognised by the Olympic body. Whenever stand-up paddle comes into the Olympics, which we are hoping for in 2032, we will be the body in India managing them.

One way of taking the federation to the districts is through stand-up paddle which can be done on lakes and other water bodies.

On starting national camps

As far as the website, we have already been working on that since last year. We have launched a new website but obviously, now to follow the Sports Code and compliance, we have already been told that we need to change a few things while we are on the job. We also need an international coach because we have been sending them (surfers) outside there but we also need the guy to come here. We need to officially announce the national coach under SFI and then the coaching camps have to happen.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Despite progress towards gender equality, only 33% of women participate in India's workforce, and female representation in the tech sector has grown modestly, Logitech said in a report

Global PC shipments rise 4.9% in Q1 2025 amid tariff uncertainty

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

PERSONAL Computer (PC) shipments grew by 4.9% year-on-year during the first quarter of 2025, with global volumes reaching 63.2 million units, according to the International Data Corporation (IDC). However, the outlook for the rest of the year remains uncertain as the PC industry faces both tailwinds and headwinds, complicating demand forecasting and planning, IDC noted in its report.

"The market is clearly showing some level of pull-in during the first quarter of this year, as both vendors and end-users brace for the impact of US tariffs. In a first quarter still relatively untouched by tariffs, the entire ecosystem attempted to accelerate the pace of deliveries to avoid the first round of US tariffs and expected volatility for the remainder of the year," said Jean Philippe Bouchard, Research Vice President with IDC's Worldwide Mobile Device Trackers.

Bouchard further mentioned that demand remained strong in the first quarter, but the new round of US tariffs announced on 2nd April could have a direct inflationary impact on the PC market, potentially resulting in delayed IT spending for the remainder of the year.

Several key demand drivers for PCs—such as upgrades ahead of Windows 10's end-of-support deadline and growing interest in on-device AI—remain strong, as reflected in the Q1 shipment figures. However, increasing uncertainty over US trade policy, inflationary pressures, and global economic risks are expected to negatively affect demand in the coming quarters.

"While many are still unpacking the details from the 2nd April tariff announcement, it's safe to say most are re-evaluating what the following months will look like," said Ryan Reith, Group Vice President with IDC's Worldwide Device Trackers.

Reith added that, in the case of hardware products like PCs, IDC continues to believe that most, if not all, cost increases resulting from tariffs will eventually be passed on to consumers.

Which brand topped?

Lenovo led the market with 15.2 million units shipped, capturing a 24.1% share and growing 10.8% year-on-year. HP Inc. followed with 12.8 million units (20.2% share), up 6.1%. Dell Technologies remained third with 9.6 million units (15.1% share), showing modest growth of 3%.

Apple recorded the highest growth rate at 14.1%, shipping 5.5 million Macs to secure an 8.7% market share. ASUS rounded out the top five with 4 million units and 11.1% growth.

While major brands gained, smaller vendors in the "Others" category saw a 3.6% decline, highlighting ongoing market consolidation. Strong commercial demand, Windows upgrades, and interest in AI-capable devices supported Q1 growth, but looming tariffs and economic uncertainty may challenge the industry going forward.

NOW CHECK MOBILE NETWORK AVAILABILITY IN YOUR AREA BEFORE BUYING A SIM

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

MOBILE users in India can now check which network technologies—such as 2G, 4G, or 5G—are available in their area before purchasing a SIM card. This follows a new directive from the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), which requires all telecom service providers, including Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, and Vodafone Idea, to publish detailed network coverage maps on their websites.

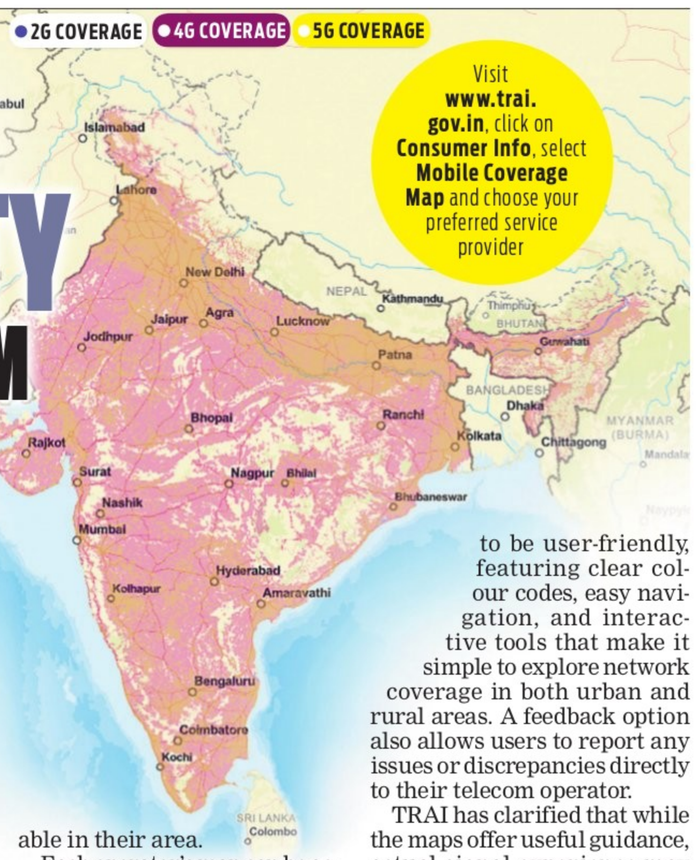
This means consumers can now view which networks are available at their location and assess their signal strengths before choosing an operator. For instance, if one provider offers only 4G in a specific area while another provides 5G, customers can opt for the one with better service. In rural areas too, where only 2G or 4G may be available, individuals can make informed decisions based on actual network accessibility.

How can users check the network?

To check network availability, users can visit the websites of telecom providers and access interactive maps showing real-time signal strength and service coverage. However, public sector operators BSNL and MTNL have yet to release their maps.

"In a significant move to enhance transparency and empower mobile subscribers, Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have published mobile network coverage maps on their websites, as per the mandate given by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)," said TRAI in a press note.

The maps display voice and broadband network availability across India and include information based on the user's location. They support 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G technologies, and allow users to search by location or use GPS to view real-time coverage. Consumers can also toggle between different network types to see what is available in their area.



Each operator's map can be accessed via their respective websites, and for convenience, TRAI has compiled all the links in one place. Users can visit www.trai.gov.in, click on 'Consumer Info', then select 'Mobile Coverage Map' and choose their preferred service provider.

User-friendly maps

The maps have been designed to be user-friendly, featuring clear colour codes, easy navigation, and interactive tools that make it simple to explore network coverage in both urban and rural areas. A feedback option also allows users to report any issues or discrepancies directly to their telecom operator.

TRAI has clarified that while the maps offer useful guidance, actual signal experience may vary—particularly indoors—due to factors such as building structure or nearby infrastructure.

Beyond assisting individual users, the coverage data also supports government planners, businesses, and developers in expanding digital services and infrastructure more effectively across the country.

CAPGEMINI TO CREATE INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC AGENTIC AI SOLUTIONS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CAPGEMINI will create industry-specific agentic AI solutions that are designed to handle customer requests across all communication channels—be it web, social or phone. It will also improve employee productivity, the company claimed.

Capgemini has announced a strategic agentic AI initiative with Google cloud to transform customer experience (CX) into a key value driver for clients. Underpinned by Google Cloud's AI technology, the company will develop bespoke solutions designed to enhance customer services with intelligent automation.

Primarily focused on telco, retail, and financial services, the partnership is intended to expand into further industries such as life sciences and utilities. In telco, new solutions will optimise call routing and resolution in contact centers by leveraging conversational AI to improve intent and understanding, increase call containment and assist agents.

The company said organisations can benefit from reduced handling time and improved first-call resolution rates, while human agents are freed-up to focus on higher value tasks. Capgemini's research finds that around nine in 10 organisations using gen AI are already seeing improved first contact resolution rates or expecting to see this benefit in the future.

Also, AI agents will help better personalise shopping experiences by using AI to analyse customer data and provide tailored product recommendations, promotions, and support interactions across all channels.

In financial services, using Google Cloud's AI, clients can improve risk assessment and fraud detection with agents that analyse customer transactions and identify suspicious patterns, improving security and regulatory compliance. "Businesses require a combination of technical expertise and advanced technology to fully realise the benefits of agentic AI within their current IT infrastructure. Through Agentspace and our new Agent2Agent interoperability protocol, our partnership with Capgemini will provide clients with AI solutions that drive long-term value across industries," said Kevin Ichhpurani, President, global partner organisation, Google Cloud.

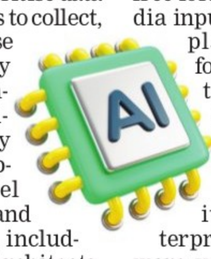
Google Cloud's new Agent2 Agent interoperability protocol will enable AI agents to successfully communicate with one another, safely exchange information, and coordinate actions no matter which platform they are running on or built on top of. As agentic AI becomes more widely adopted, this protocol will ensure agent functionality across diverse and separate data sources and applications, the company added.

Organisations to use small, task-specific AI models more by 2027

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

BY 2027, organisations will implement small, task-specific AI models three times more often than general-purpose large-language models (LLMs), according to Gartner, an American research and advisory firm. It states that firms planning to adopt small, task-specific AI models should consider piloting contextualised models—particularly in areas where business context is crucial or where LLMs have failed to meet expectations in terms of response quality or speed. Firms should also adopt composite approaches, such as identifying use cases where single-model orchestration is insufficient, and strengthen their data and skills capabilities.

Gartner recommends that organisations prioritise data preparation efforts to collect, curate and organise the data necessary for fine-tuning language models. Simultaneously, they should invest in upskilling personnel across technical and functional teams, including AI and data architects, data scientists, AI and data engineers, risk and compliance teams, procurement teams, and business SMEs, in order to effectively drive these initiatives. "The variety of tasks in business workflows and the need for greater accuracy are driving the shift towards specialised models fine-tuned on specific functions or domain data," said Sumit Agarwal, VP Analyst at Gartner. "These smaller, task-specific models provide quicker responses and use less computational power, reducing operational and maintenance costs," Agarwal added.



Enterprises can customise LLMs for specific tasks by employing retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) or fine-tuning techniques to create specialised models, according to Gartner. "As enterprises increasingly recognise the value of their private data and the insights derived from their specialised processes, they are likely to begin monetising their models and offering access to these resources to a broader audience, including their customers and even competitors," said Agarwal.

Gartner also identifies the top 12 early-stage technology disruptions, including Earth intelligence, intelligent simulation, polyfunctional robots, and algorithm-aligned silicon.

In addition, Gartner notes that GenAI-enabled code architecture will enable dynamic, composable applications. GenAI solutions using free-form text and multimedia inputs/outputs will displace conventional, form-oriented, sequential UIs in established enterprise applications and enable new user scenarios. "To remain competitive, traditional enterprise application software vendors will need to refactor applications to serve composable GenAI solutions that are invoked on demand via textual and multimodal prompts," said Ray Valdes, VP Analyst at Gartner.

Gartner further predicts that by 2028, 80% of major Earth surface assets globally will be monitored by active satellites. Earth intelligence leverages AI to analyse satellite, aerial, and ground data to monitor the planet's assets and activities, providing insights for decision-making. "Technology leaders must take action now to gain a first-mover advantage with these technologies," said Bill Ray, Distinguished VP Analyst at Gartner. "Innovative advancements like generative AI (GenAI)-enabled code architecture, disinformation security, and Earth intelligence will provide the differentiation needed to help enterprises pull ahead of the pack in terms of data and product offerings," he added.

TECHNOLOGY BUZZ

Now, get ASUS tech accessories delivered by Swiggy in 10 mins

ASUS India has teamed up with Swiggy Instamart to deliver its popular tech accessories—including keyboards, mice, and chargers—in under 10 minutes across major cities like Pune, Gurgaon, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow, and Ahmedabad. The partnership is part of ASUS's strategy to enhance consumer convenience by tapping into India's booming quick commerce space. With urban shoppers increasingly prioritising speed and accessibility, ASUS aims to bring essential tech solutions directly to users' doorsteps, eliminating long wait times, the company said. ASUS accessories will now be available on Swiggy Instamart alongside daily essentials and electronics, it said. "Whether it's a last-minute charger before a meeting or headphones for a late-night binge session, ASUS products are now just a few taps away. Waiting days for accessories is no longer practical," said Arnold Su, Vice-President, Consumer and Gaming PC, ASUS India.

Xiaomi launches summer sale with exclusive discounts

Xiaomi has launched its 'Summer Savings' campaign with exclusive discounts on smartphones, smart TVs, tablets, and AIoT devices. Offers are live across Mi.com, Amazon, Flipkart, and retail outlets. Smartphones covered under the campaign include the Redmi Note 14 Pro+ 5G, known for its premium design and Corning Gorilla Glass Victus 2 protection, and the Xiaomi 14 CIVI, offering Leica-powered pro-grade photography and immersive display experiences. In AIoT, the Redmi Buds 6 with dual drivers and 49dB ANC are priced at ₹2,799, while the Redmi Watch 5 Active and Watch 5 Lite offer style, GPS, and fitness tracking from ₹3,399. The Xiaomi RVC X10 robotic vacuum brings smart cleaning at ₹24,999. Xiaomi 15 Ultra, which features a 1-inch Leica sensor and pro-level video capabilities and Xiaomi 15 are open pre-order. However, pre-orders for the 15 Ultra sold out early as the demand remains high, which makes this sale an unmissable opportunity, the company said.

Atlassian makes its enterprise AI solutions available for all

Software company Atlassian is making its enterprise AI solution, Rovo, available to all customers. The company also announced the launch of new Rovo Studio app, which lets users create custom AI-powered agents with low-code/no-code options. At the annual Team '25 conference in California, Atlassian unveiled new collections: curated sets of apps and agents designed to solve specific challenges for different types of teams. Rovo, which was unveiled at last year's team gathering, is the first Atlassian solution developed in and for the AI era, the company claimed. It combines the apps Rovo Search—which surfaces the most useful information from across both Atlassian tools and third-party sources—and Rovo Chat, which distils tremendous amounts of company data into a tailored conversation with Rovo Agents, out-of-the-box or custom-made AI teammates that can take action on a user's behalf, saving time while achieving better results, it added.

Nagarro and Advantech announce AI-focussed global partnership

Nagarro and Advantech have announced a global strategic partnership to co-create and bring advanced Edge AI platforms and intelligent IoT solutions to market. Miller Chang, President of Advantech Embedded Sector, said, "Advantech has established a strong foundation in edge computing and industrial-grade hardware devices. Advantech and Nagarro will drive the expansion of Edge AI applications across key industries. This strategic collaboration aims to scale our successful model globally, from India, Taiwan, Germany, and Japan to Intercontinental, delivering comprehensive Edge AI solutions to enterprises worldwide." Manas Human, co-founder and CEO of Nagarro, said, "Nagarro is a leader in cloud-based AI solutions, but very often we need to deploy AI on the edge, for reasons of latency, efficiency, reliability, privacy, or security. As the number of edge devices is growing exponentially, we expect the Edge AI use cases to grow in proportion."